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Japan

Editorial on U.S. Reduction of Military Bases

OW2009134390 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 20 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial: "Base Reduction Plan of the U.S. Defense Department"]

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department has announced a plan for the closure or reduction of a total of 150 military bases and facilities in 10 foreign countries. We welcome that this plan includes two bases on Okinawa.

U.S. President Bush, in the budget message delivered to the Congress, proposed cutting the military spending for the 1991 fiscal year by 2.6 percent in real terms over the previous year. This may be a reflection of the new age in the post-Cold War U.S.-Soviet relations as a result of the political changes taking place in the Soviet Union and East Europe.

Defense Secretary Cheney announced last January a plan to close or reduce 69 military bases, including 14 overseas, to reduce defense budget. But his plan on overseas bases covered mostly those in Europe, including only three sites in Korea and one in the Philippines in the whole Asia, to our disappointment.

In a report "The Framework of Strategy for the Asian and Pacific Region, Looking Toward the 21st Century" to the Congress in April, U.S. Defense Department gave its views on the reorganization and rationalization of the U.S. armed forces in the next 10 years. In relation to Japan, the department disclosed its plan to reduce its forces mostly at its bases in Okinawa by 5,000 to 6,000 over the next three years. The department also disclosed its intention to return "unnecessary bases" to Japan at an early date.

Out of the 150 overseas U.S. bases which the Defense Department said it would close or reduce, 108 are those in West Germany. This is apparently in anticipation of the reduction of the U.S. forces under an agreement on the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE), and the plan includes complete closing down of two Air Force bases among others.

Among the U.S. bases on Okinawa, a naval air fleet facility on Kadena Air Base and a Marine Corps facility on Zukeran Base will be removed or reduced according to the plan. The naval air fleet facility means the P-3C antisubmarine reconnaisance unit in charge of defense of sealanes. It appears that it has been decided to remove it for reorganization as the Maritime Self-Defense Force elements on Naha Base acquired their own P-3C planes from last July.

The Marine Corps facility in question appears to be the 12th Marine Artillery Regiment which is the unit that has been conducting live ammunition artillery firing exercise over the prefectural Highway No. 104. The prefectural people have been strongly demanding that the artillery exercise using live ammunition be suspended.

Defense Secretary Cheney, announcing the plan to close or reduce military bases, explained that he would "continue to review the base facilities while working to reduce defense budget." It seems that he was referring mostly to bases in Europe. We hope he will tackle more actively the task of reducing arms in post-Cold War Asia and the Pacific.

At present, the U.S. Defense Department is calling for increased defense burdens by allied nations. On the other hand, there is increasing pressure from the U.S. Congress on Japan to defray costs of stationing U.S. forces in Japan. Should the U.S. armed forces' removal or reduction of overseas bases only lead to expansion of defense spending by Japan, it will mean going against the trend of arms reduction.

Seventy-five percent of the land exclusively used for bases by the U.S. forces in Japan is in Okinawa. It is noteworthy that the U.S. Defense Department came up with a specific plan to remove and reduce some bases on Okinawa. We hope that the return of bases will be facilitated with this action as a beginning.

Visiting U.S. Group Views Gulf, Defense Ties

OW2109090090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0839 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Three high-level U.S. Government officials visited Japan between September 12-15 to discuss the U.S.-Japan security relationship amid the Persian Gulf crisis, including the question of increased burden-sharing, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday.

The U.S. officials were identified as Karl Jackson, assistant to President George Bush, Desaix Anderson, deputy assistant secretary of state, and Carl Ford, deputy undersecretary of defense.

The U.S. officials were said to have met with Koichiro Matsuura, director general of the Foreign Ministry's North American Affairs Bureau, and also with Defense Agency officials.

"They discussed issues relating to the Japan-U.S. security relationship," said one official. He acknowledged the conversations also took up the question of burden-sharing and the military situation in the Persian Gulf.

Finance Minister Leaves for Washington 20 Sep

OW2009061890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0425 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno left here for Washington Thursday to attend a series of international financial meetings which start on Saturday (local time).

The series of Washington talks includes annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Among major topics for discussion will be assistance to Egypt and other Middle Eastern nations suffering from economic damage following Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait, government officials said.

Coordination of financial policies among developed nations will be among countermeasures the financial leaders are expected to consider as a means to cope with inflationary trends triggered by soaring oil prices in the wake of the Persian Gulf crisis, the officials said.

Finance Minister Hashimoto will hold individual talks with his U.S. counterpart Nicholas Brady prior to the series of international meetings, the officials said.

U.S. Air Company Plans To Ferry Gulf Aid

OW2109113190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1117 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Japan has concluded an agreement with a U.S. air freight company to ferry medical and food supplies from the United States to multinational forces based in Saudi Arabia, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Spokesman Taizo Watanabe said the Foreign Ministry has reached an agreement with the Oregon-based air service Evergreen International Co. on conducting nine round-trip chartered flights to Saudi Arabia.

He said the first Boeing 747 was scheduled to take off from Dover Airport in Delaware on September 21 and fly to Dhahran Airport in Saudi Arabia, with a technical stopover in Europe, a 48-hour round-trip.

Watanabe said the planes will carry food, medicines, and other materials for the multinational forces, but will not be allowed to transport "soldiers, ammunition, or weapons."

He said that after the ninth flight, the Foreign Ministry will assess the demand for additional transportation.

Nakayama To Meet 'Aziz 'Next Week' at UN

OW2109103290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1020 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama will meet his Iraqi counterpart Tariq 'Aziz next week at the United Nations in New York at the latter's request, a Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed Friday.

"The Iraqi side has been requesting a dialogue between the Japanese and Iraqi Governments at a high level for several weeks now," said Spokesman Taizo Watanabe, meeting separately with Japanese reporters and foreign correspondents.

"We would like to take this opportunity to articulate our position that the (Persian Gulf crisis) should be resolved in accordance with the resolutions passed by the Security Council of the United Nations," Watanabe said.

The spokesman was referring to resolutions calling for the prompt and unconditional withdrawl of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and its release of foreign nationals.

Watanabe said the meeting with 'Aziz will most likely occur shortly before or after Nakayama delivers an address on Tuesday before the 45th U.N. General Assembly session.

It was not immediately known whether 'Aziz would be meeting in New York with the foreign ministers of Western countries.

Watanabe acknowledged that the decision to meet with 'Aziz followed consultations with Japan's major Western allies and concerned Arab governments, but stressed that it was ultimately made "entirely on our own."

He said that aside from stressing the importance of the U.N. Security Council resolutions in his talks with 'Aziz, Nakayama is also "determined to represent the views of Western nations with which we have an alliance relationship."

Asked if Japan may try to strike a deal with Baghdad to gain the release of its nationals held by Iraq, Watanabe replied, "No deal."

Watanabe said the government has been resisting calls to dispatch a special envoy to Baghdad to secure the release of Japanaese hostages because of concerns that the Iraqi Government would exploit the visit for propaganda purposes.

Nakayama To Focus on Gulf Crisis at UN Session

OW2109025090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0155 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama departs Saturday for the 45th U.N. General Assembly session in New York, during which he will hold separate meetings with his counterparts from about 20 nations, possibly including Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

Nakayama said the U.N. session, under way since Tuesday, will test the new spirit of international cooperation in the face of the crisis in the Persian Gulf.

"Although the U.N. was quick to respond to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait with sanctions, the prospects for a resolution to the situation remain unclear," he told reporters earlier in the week.

Nakayama said he will try to set up a meeting with 'Aziz during his 11-day stay in New York, and wants to urge him to help find a diplomatic solution to the crisis.

He said he will renew Japan's call on Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and release unconditionally the foreign nationals it is holding hostage in both countries.

Nakayama is scheduled to meet the foreign ministers of the six Persian Gulf states which form the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, and Bahrain.

Japan announced Friday it is setting up a "Gulf peace fund" in the GCC to channel a substantial portion of the 2 billion dollars it has committed in support of the multinational forces in the Gulf region.

Apart from the GCC nations, Nakayama's diplomatic schedule in New York also includes separate meetings with the foreign ministers of Iran, Syria, Algeria, Israel, and Pakistan, all countries closely concerned with the Gulf crisis.

Foreign Ministry officials said the Gulf crisis will be high on the agenda in meetings Nakayama will have with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Nakayama is to address the General Assembly on Tuesday. He told reporters he will propose that the United Nations set up an early-warning mechanism so that potential conflicts can be resolved before they escalate into a crisis.

He said he will also try to allay Asian fears over Japan's plan to enact a U.N. peace cooperation law that would empower the government to dispatch noncombatant Japanese military personnel overseas. The proposed law is designed to allow Japan to play a bigger role in international peacekeeping activities, Nakayama said.

A top Foreign Ministry official said in amplifying Nakayama's remarks, "We must relieve any anxieties they may have about Japan becoming a potential military threat." Nakayama plans to discuss the issue in bilateral talks with the foreign ministers of South Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry officials predict that foreign ministers of some Asian countries which are not oil producers may ask Japan to help offset economic losses they have suffered as a result of the U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq.

Japan may also be called on to render similar assistance to East Europe when Nakayama meets representatives of the European Community and his counterparts from the Group of Seven (G-7) nations, they said.

Another highlight of Nakayama's New York trip will be a dinner conference of foreign ministers from the Pacific rim, to be hosted jointly by Nakayama and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas on Thursday.

Nakayama told reporters, "This is highly significant, as it will be the first opportunity in the postwar period for the members of the Asia-Pacific region to gather like this for a free exchange of views on regional issues." He said Japan hopes the forum will address ways of resolving regional problems, including the conflict in Cambodia and the tension on the Korean peninsula.

UN Peace Cooperation Law Outline Expected Soon

OW2109064990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0616 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—The Japanese Government will have a definite outline of its proposed "United Nations peace cooperation law" before Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu leaves for the United States next week, Defense Agency Chief Yozo Ishikawa said Friday.

Ishikawa told reporters that Kaifu understands that Japan must act swiftly to help resolve the Persian Gulf crisis caused by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in early August.

The new law proposed by Kaifu last month would authorize the sending of noncombat Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas to assist in United Nations peace-keeping activities.

Kaifu is due to leave September 28 for New York to attend a U.N.-sponsored meeting of leaders from some 70 countries to discuss the welfare of children.

Kaifu and U.S. President George Bush are expected to meet in New York on September 29, government sources said. Japan's role in the Gulf crisis will be high on the agenda at the meeting, the sources said.

Japan has so far pledged 2 billion dollars in financial assistance to the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Gulf and another 2 billion dollars in economic aid to "frontline" countries hard hit by the U.N.-approved economic embargo against Iraq.

Japan is barred by its Constitution and the SDF Law from sending armed troops abroad.

The government has proposed enactment of a U.N. peace cooperation law that would enable Japan to send noncombat SDF personnel, police or firefighters to help assist U.N. peace-keeping activities in the event of an international crisis.

Meanwhile, one government source said noncombat SDF personnel would be allowed to carry handguns for self-protection under the proposed law as recommended by some members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Meanwhile, the country's main opposition party, the Japan Socialist Party, said Friday it opposes a government plan for a law to enable noncombat Self-Defense

Forces personnel to go abroad in the event of an international crisis to help assist in United Nations peacekeeping activities.

JSP Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi told a press conference his party will defend the spirit of the Constitution which prohibits the country from resorting to the "threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes."

The JSP's leadership body, the Central Executive Committee, will meet early next month to decide how to address the proposed U.N. peace cooperation law, Yamaguchi said.

Fund Planned To Facilitate Gulf Financial Aid

GCC To Administer Aid

OW2009081090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0640 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—The Japanese Government decided Thursday to set up a "Gulf Peace Fund" within the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to channel its pledged 2 billion dollars in financial aid to the U.S.-led multinational forces deployed in the region, government sources said.

The cabinet will formally approve the fund at its regular meeting on Friday, they said.

It was previously agreed that 1 billion dollars of the 2 billion dollar assistance package will be allocated in the reserved budget for the current year. Most of the 1 billion dollars immediately available through the fund will be used to pay the expenses of the U.S. military forces which constitute the bulk of the multinational forces deployed in the Persian Gulf since Iraq invaded and annexed Kuwait, the sources said.

Some 10 percent will be used by the Japanese Government to pay for the purchase of trucks dispatched to the region and the chartering of cargo airplanes and ships, the sources said.

The fund's office will be set up in the Saudi Arabian capital of Riyadh and it will be administered in close consultation with Japan, they said.

The GCC, which was established in 1981 to forge solidarity among the Gulf states after the Iraq-Iran war broke out the previous year, comprise Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman.

The government initially considered international institutions such as the United Nations to channel its financial assistance, so as to avoid the appearance of sharing the financial burden of specific nations, mainly the United States, the sources said. But the U.S. refused to allow international institutions to have any authority over the funds, they said.

Agreement Viewed

OW2109025390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0132 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Japan will set up a "Gulf peace fund" in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to funnel a substantial portion of the 2 billion dollars it has committed to support U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, the government said Friday.

An initial cash contribution of 122.8 billion yen (roughly 900 million dollars) will be made to the fund, according to a statement released after the cabinet approved the plan Friday morning.

The GCC, a political, security, economic, and cultural entity, groups six Arab states in the Gulf—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain, and Qatar.

The sum is part of the 1 billion dollars Japan first committed August 30 in support of the multilateral forces in the Gulf region as part of its contribution to countering the military threat from Iraq following its invasion and annexation of Kuwait in August.

The Japanese Government is directly disbursing the remaining 100 million dollars to pay for charters of aircraft and shipping as well as expenses involved in financing the dispatch of medical personnel to the Gulf area. Government sources said a substantial part of the second 1 billion dollar commitment pledged September 14 will also be managed through the GCC peace fund.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said the government is setting up the fund to manage the money in accordance with an agreement Japan worked out with the GCC.

The Foreign Ministry released the text of the Gulf peace fund agreement after the cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu ratified the measure Friday morning. The agreement specifies that the peace fund will be used exclusively to "support countries undertaking activities to restore peace and stability in the Gulf region."

The money is expected to be used to pay transportation costs and for nonlethal materials and equipment for use by the multinational forces. "We are not thinking of using the fund for purchase of weapons and ammunition," a Foreign Ministry source said.

The Japanese Government said the fund will be managed jointly by the Japanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Takashi Onda, and the secretary general of the Riyadh-based council, Abdullah Y. Bishara of Kuwait. In addition to the multinational forces support fund, Japan has pledged another 2 billion dollars to assist nations affected by the Gulf crisis, particularly Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey.

'Peace Fund' Approved

OW2109093390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0914 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Japan's Cabinet on Friday approved the establishment of a "Peace Fund" jointly administered with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to serve as channel for a substantial part of the 2 billion dollars in non-lethal aid it has pledged to the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, officials said. But statements by senior government officials indicate that safeguards to ensure funds are not used for weapons and munitions purchases in violation of the country's Constitution are not yet in place.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, speaking to the press after cabinet approval of the measure, said the fund would be used for "necessary items" related to the multinational force deployment, adding that "various measures will be studied" to address concerns that it be used for "non-lethal" purposes only.

U.S. officials reportedly protested initial Japanese moves to place the fund under international control, fearing it would limit their free hand in spending the funds, officials said.

Asked who would have the right of final decision on how the funds would be spent, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said that "agreement will be reached" if differences arise between GCC and Japanese opinions.

Tokyo maintains it will not pay for lethal purchases, refusing earlier U.S. requests to provide air and sea transportation for troops and weapons as a violation of its constitutional provisions renouncing the use of force in international disputes.

The Japanese Government has tried to avoid the appearance of financing the United States in particular and official statements have cited "constitutional problems" in the provision of funds to a specific nation, government sources said. Of the 1 billion dollars Japan pledged in late August, the government will deposit 900 million dollars or 122.9 billion yen into the fund. The remaining 100 million dollars will be spent directly, officials said.

In Japanese currency terms, the 1 billion dollars is worth roughly 137 billion yen, of which 11.8 billion yen will be spent for chartering aircraft and ships, 900 million yen for sending a medical team, 122.9 billion yen for the GCC Peace Fund, and 1.4 billion yen for wages to doctors, nurses and assistants in the medical team.

Japan will funnel most of another 1 billion dollars pledged on September 14 into the GCC fund, the officials said.

The GCC, which is a political, security, economic and cultural entity, groups six Arab states in the Persian Gulf area—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar. Established in 1981, the organization was a response to security concerns at the beginning of the Iran-Iraq war and conducted joint military land, sea and air exercises in the mid-1980s.

The Peace Fund agreement between the GCC and Japan specifies it will be used exclusively "to support countries undertaking activities to restore peace and stability in the Gulf region" in line with United Nations resolutions.

Japan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Takashi Onda, and the secretary general of the Riyadh-based GCC, Abdullah Bishara of Kuwait, will jointly manage the fund, officials said.

In addition to the 2 billion dollars to support the multinational Gulf forces, Japan has pledged a further 2 billion dollars to assist nations suffering economically from the Gulf crisis, earmarking specific amounts for Egypt, Jordan and Turkey.

Resumption of 'Friendly' Iraqi Ties Possible

OW2109083490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0811 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Japan is willing to resume friendly relations with Iraq after it abides by United Nations resolutions calling for it to withdraw from Kuwait and release all foreign hostages, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Spokesman Taizo Watanabe indicated in a meeting with foreign correspondents that bilateral relations could be restored when the Gulf crisis ends despite Baghdad's violations of international law and its holding of Japanese nationals as hostages.

"We had been maintaining good friendly relations with the Iraqi people and in that spirit we had been extending very large amounts of (economic and technological) cooperation to Iraq," Watanabe said. He said that prior to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2 the two countries had also enjoyed a good business relationship.

"We would very much like to resume this kind of relationship after Iraq has withdrawn its troops and released foreigners," Watanabe said. "It is only because of this unlawful act on the part of the Iraqi Government that (relations have been) disrupted," he said.

Further on Letters From 'Hostages' in Iraq

OW1209043390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1532 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 11 KYODO - Letters sent by Japanese hostages in Iraq to relatives in Japan indicate that some are unaware that their wives and children have been released from captivity and remain concerned about their welfare, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

The ministry said it has received facsimiles of 86 letters from Japanese hostages that had been delivered by the Iraqi Government to Japan's Embassy in Baghdad and later forwarded to the Japanese Embassy in Amman, Jordan.

There are 141 Japanese currently being held against their will in Iraq.

The Iraqi Government had opened all of the letters, some of which were written in English, before turning them over to the embassy in Baghdad, the ministry said. The ministry said it had delivered some of the letters to the families of hostages, while others have been forwarded by companies employing them.

Ministry officials returning to Baghdad this week will carry letters to hostages from family members and Iraq has promised to deliver them, it said. Gifts to hostages and medicine sent by their families will also be handed over to Iraqi officials but it is not certain whether they will be delivered, the ministry said.

The family of an employee of the Arabian Oil Co. who is being held hostage in Iraq made public a postcard from him. In the postcard dated August 30 and written in English, Kimiaki Tokumasu said he was fine and was with two other Japanese, including one company colleague, and a few other foreigners. He was preparing to return to Riyadh from Kuwait when he was trapped by Iraq's invasion on August 2.

The card said the group was moved on August 28, without mentioning the specific place where they were being held. Tokumasu said Iraqi authorities were treating the hostages as important guests and expressed hope that peace will come to the place (Iraq) as early as possible.

Kaifu Supports Asian Games Ban of Iraq

OW2109065090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0202 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Friday he supports the decision of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) to bar Iraq from the Beijing Asian Games which start this weekend.

Kaifu told reporters that Thursday's decision by the OCA reflects "the feelings of all people around the world."

He said Iraq has violated the "trends and aspirations of international society" in its behavior since its invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

Defense Agency Not To Invite Iraq to SDF Event

OW2009083990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0753 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—The Defense Agency has decided not to invite Iraqi Embassy officials in Japan to the annual memorial events of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to be held in October and November, agency officials said Thursday.

The officials said the agency made the decision to express its displeasure over Iraq's aggression and its annexation of Kuwait on August 2.

The agency plans to conduct an SDF inspection parade on October 7 and will hold a party to celebrate the anniversary of the SDF on November 2.

Earlier this month, the agency had already sent invitation cards for the inspection parade to foreign embassies in Tokyo, but Iraq did not receive an invitation. It also has decided not to invite Iraq to the celebration party, the offic als said. A similar decision was made against the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo in 1983 when Soviet jet fighters shot down a South Korean passenger plane over Sakhalin Island.

The agency said the inspection parade will be attended by 58 embassy officials from 38 nations, 49 military officers from 20 nations and about 250 U.S. Army officers.

Saudi Arabia Soon To Resume Heating Oil Exports

OW2109081190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0738 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Saudi Arabia has informed Japanese oil companies that it will resume, from October delivery, exports of heating oil halted since late August to allow it to retain its military fuel stocks, industry sources said Friday.

The October delivery of kerosene and gas oil by Saudi Arabia is expected to total 175,000 tons, the sources said.

Saudi Arabia is supplying thousands of foreign troops and scores of tanks and aircraft from the multinational force now in the country to defend it against a possible attack from Iraq. In late August, it told Japan it could not supply any gas oil, jet fuel or kerosene in September because of growing demand from the multinational force stationed there.

Officials at Nippon Oil Co., which recently began direct term-contract relations with Saudi Arabia, said the notice on the release of military fuel stocks helped relieve the company's concern ahead of the winter season when demand for such oils usually shoots up.

In addition to Nippon Oil, several trading houses and two other major oil wholesalers—Idemitsu Kosan Co. and Cosmo Oil Co.—received similar notification from the mideast kingdom, the sources said.

Indian Minister Appeals for Gulf Crisis Aid

OW2009092490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0619 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—An Indian cabinet minister asked Japan on Thursday to help his nation deal with the impact on its economy of the Persian Gulf crisis, Japanese Government officials said.

Commerce and Tourism Minister Arun Kumar Nehru, who is currently visiting Japan, made the request when he met Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at the prime minister's official residence.

Nehru said 45 percent of India's oil imports normally come from Iraq and Kuwait, and it has been dealt a heavy blow by the surge in crude oil prices triggered by the Gulf crisis.

The officials quoted Kaifu as telling him, "I understand your nation's difficulties, but we have to give top priority to resolving the crisis peacefully," and that Iraq should be blamed for the jump in crude oil prices.

Nehru also handed a message to Kaifu from Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the officials said.

India Rejects Intellectual Property Rights Offer

OW2109101390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0936 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—A visiting Indian Cabinet official said Friday that India is not willing to make concessions on intellectual property rights, one of the unsolved disputes at the Uruguay round of multilateral trade liberalization talks.

"One has to see what are the national interests involved. Every country has national interests," Commerce and Tourism Minister Arun Kumar Nehru told KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

"We do not agree (to proposed control of intellectual property rights)," he said.

India has been opposed to bringing intellectual property rights under the supervision of the world's trade watchdog, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), since tighter rules on patents, copyright, and trademarks might be expected to make it more difficult for Indian companies to obtain advanced technology.

India has its own regulations on the matter, but they are relatively less stringent than those practiced in Japan and Western nations.

Nehru expressed the view that in order to bring the four-year talks to a successful conclusion by the deadline in December, no participant nation should expect to win in all the 15 fields under negotiations.

"Everyone should sit together, give and take a little. Everyone has to give some concessions," he said, though he did not eleborate on which area India is ready to make compromises.

Nehru, on a four-day visit to Japan, also said India will continue to maintain its controlling grip on foreign investment for a while.

"We believe that you should in the future deregulate, but everyone has to go according to a certain pace," he said. "Basically, we are a conservative nation. Whatever we do, we do after a lot of thinking, we are not pushed into any situation."

India prohibits foreign investors from owning a majority stake in joint ventures with Indian companies except for some high technology-related and export-oriented partnerships.

"In most nations, there are rules in one form or other ... I think basically in every country, whoever wants to do business there has to study the positions (of the country)," he said.

Nehru also said that India nevertheless welcomes Japanese investment and that he believes bilateral economic relations, especially investment and technology exchanges, will expand in the future.

As for the current Gulf crisis, Nehru said rising oil prices, the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of Indians working in the region, and a halt in trade with Iraq, a major trading partner, have combined to do damage to the Indian economy.

Kanemaru Expected To Meet Kim Il-song

OW2109021490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1508 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—Influential Japanese conservative politician Shin Kanemaru will convey Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's apology and remorse over Japan's past colonial rule over Korea to North Korean leaders, Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] sources said Thursday.

Kaifu, in a 30-minute meeting with Kanemaru and Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe, said he has often offered such apologies to Koreans in discussions in the Diet, the sources said.

The prime minister noted that he also offered an apology to South Korean President No Tae-u when he visited Japan earlier this year.

Kaifu said he expressed Japan's apology and remorse "from the heart," not only to South Korea "but for the whole Korean peninsula."

Kanemaru and Tanabe will visit North Korea from September 24-28, leading delegations from Japan's governing LDP and the No. 1 opposition JSP.

Kanemaru told Kaifu he wants to help achieve a major breakthrough in what he called the long abnormal relationship between Japan and North Korea, which have never had diplomatic ties.

The Korean peninsula was divided after the end of Japanese colonial rule in 1945. While Japan normalized relations with South Korea in 1965, the JSP has maintained friendly ties with the North.

Kaifu and Kanemaru agreed that Kaifu should apologize as LDP president, not as prime minister, the sources said. Kaifu is prime minister by virtue of his position as president of the LDP, which controls a stable majority in the powerful House of Representatives.

Meanwhile, a pro-Pyongyang group of Korean residents in Japan, Chongnyon, indicated that North Korean President Kim Il-song will meet with Kanemaru, a former deputy prime minister and a veteran member of the House of Representatives, while he is in North Korea.

Chongnyon leader Han Tok-su dropped the hint in a meeting with Kanemaru, who paid a call on Han before meeting the prime minister.

"You don't have to worry whether President Kim will meet you or not at this point, and there will be a good dialogue in Pyongyang," Han was quoted as telling Kanemaru.

Kanemaru expressed his gratitude to North Korea for "positive considerations" in arranging his trip, LDP sources said.

He told Han that he wishes to start full-fledged work to improve bilateral relations by clearly offering an apology for Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule over the Korean peninsula.

Kanemaru also expressed the hope that he can meet with Kim to offer the apology as soon as possible after arriving in Pyongyang on September 24, the sources said.

Kanemaru's and Tanabe's delegations will fly together to Pyongyang on the first direct flight ever by a Japanese airliner to North Korea. Japan's Foreign Ministry will also dispatch a few officials, in the first visit by Japanese Government officials to North Korea.

During colonial rule, Japan brought an estimated one million Koreans to Japan to work against their will, as well as conscripting up to 100,000 young Korean women who were sent to war zones as military prostitutes.

On the issue of two Japanese seamen detained on espionage charges in North Korea since 1983, Tanabe told Kaifu that he wants to solve the issue "in a humanitarian way."

He also pledged to make efforts to help create a favorable atmosphere for inter-governmental negotiations.

Kaifu Seeks Korean Understanding, Relations

OW2109064390 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Former Deputy Prime Minister Kanemaru and others are scheduled to visit North Korea, the DPRK, beginning 24 September. In connection with this visit, Prime Minister Kaifu telephoned ROK President No Tae-u this morning and requested his understanding of Japan's position on improving relations with North Korea.

A delegation of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the Japanese Socialist Party [JSP] led by former Deputy Prime Minister Kanemaru and the JSP vice chairman is scheduled to visit North Korea beginning 24 September. It is expected that during the visit, Japan will offer an apology for its past colonial rule in the form of a personal message from Prime Minister Kaifu in his capacity as LDP president. In this connection, Prime Minister Kaifu telephoned ROK President No Tae-u this morning and explained Japan's basic position. He asked for No's understanding.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Kanemaru has decided to visit North Korea so as to settle the issue of the No. 18 Fujisan Maru and secure the release of its crew members. He also seeks to open liaison offices to pave the way for promoting future government exchange with North Korea. Since the relations between South and North Korea have been improving, as indicated by the recent South- North summit, Japan seeks to improve its relations with North Korea to balance recent moves for better ROK-USSR, ROK-PRC, and North Korea-U.S. relations.

In response, President No Tae-u said he hoped the Japanese-North Korean dialogue would bring about significant developments in South-North relations.

Kaifu Briefs ROK on Kanemaru DPRK Visit

OW2109054290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0518 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—South Korean President No Tae- u told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Friday that he hopes high-level contacts between Japan's ruling party and North Korea will help reduce tensions on the divided Korean peninsula.

No made the comment in a telephone conversation initiated by Kaifu to inform Seoul of the upcoming visit by a high-powered Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) delegation led by Shin Kanemaru, a former deputy prime minister, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said.

Kaifu told No he is seeking to "balance" Japan's relations with North Korea with Seoul's initiatives toward Moscow and Beijing, as well as Washington's contacts with Pyongyang, Sakamoto said.

In the past year, No has moved toward establishing diplomatic ties with several of South Korea's former communist foes, and is expected to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union in the near future.

Kaifu told No he hopes Kanemaru's September 24-28 visit will help secure the release of two Japanese seamen detained since 1983 on spy charges, as well as pave the way for government-level contacts, Sakamoto said.

Japan and North Korea do not have diplomatic ties, and the visit by Kanemaru is seen by some political analysts as an effort by Tokyo to keep pace with changes in the region following the decline of superpower tensions.

Sakamoto denied a report by South Korea's YONHAP News Agency that No has asked Kaifu to urge North

Korea to accept inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Japan and other Western countries have stepped up calls for IAEA inspections after satellite data indicated North Korea is developing atomic facilities capable of making nuclear weapons.

Kanemaru is leading an LDP delegation. The Japan Socialist Party is also sending another mission headed by Makoto Tanabe, a vice chairman of the Japan Socialist Party, the No. 1 opposition party, which has maintained close ties with North Korea in the absence of intergovernmental links between the two countries.

The missions have been portrayed as an exchange between Japanese political parties and the (North) Korea Workers' Party, and it is uncertain whether two accompanying Foreign Ministry officials will have contacts with their counterparts.

Kanemaru is expected to convey an apology for Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule over the Korean peninsula from Kaifu who is offering it not as Japan's prime minister but as president of the ruling party. Kaifu is prime minister because of his position as head of the LDP, which controls a stable majority in the powerful House of Representatives.

Kaifu Urges 'Breakthrough' for Pyongyang Mission

OW2109141690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1340 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Friday met Japan's highest-ever party-level mission to North Korea and urged its members to make a "breakthrough" for a dialogue with Pyongyang.

In his meeting with the delegation made up of members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), who will leave for Pyongyang on Monday, Kaifu noted that past cabinets have expressed "apology, reflecting honest remorse, for giving unbearable agonies" to Koreans who suffered under Japan's colonial rule from 1910 to 1945.

The LDP team is led by former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru and the JSP group is headed by party Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe.

But intergovernmental negotiations for better bilateral relations have been blocked by a "thick wall," Kaifu said.

"It is indispensable to have a channel for intergovernmental dialogue. Please make a breakthrough to begin a frank dialogue," Kaifu told the delegation members. "The government also hopes to do that," he said.

Kanemaru expressed his intention to break the "thick wall," and referred to his hopes of realizing the release of two Japanese seamen detained in North Korea since 1983 on espionage charges. He stressed the importance of an apology to North Korea for the past Japanese colonial rule, saying the time has come to clear the issue which has been tacked by cabinets in the past.

LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa and JSP Chairwoman Takako Doi were also present at the gathering.

Doi urged the government to build fresh, trustworthy ties with Pyongyang by clarifying the past. "This mission to North Korea reflects the enthusiasm of the Japanese people to establish morality on this issue. We cannot rewrite history," she said.

DPRK To Allow 11 Telecommunications Links

OW2109060890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0514 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Japan and North Korea will soon establish telecommunications links to prepare for a visit to North Korea by delegations from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), Posts and Telecommunications Minister Takashi Fukaya said Friday.

Fukaya told reporters that the North Korean Ministry of Posts and Communication has agreed to set up a total of 11 telecom links between Pyongyang and Tokyo—five via satellite and six telephone lines routed through Hong Kong, Singapore, and France.

The planned satellite telecommunications links include one for television transmission, three for telephones, and one for television sound.

A total of 36 journalists from Japan will cover the September 24- 28 trip by delegations from the LDP and the nation's largest opposition party.

The LDP group will be led by former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, while JSP Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe will head his own delegation. Kanemaru's trip will be the first visit by an LDP delegation. The JSP has served as the main channel of communications between the two nations in the absence of bilateral diplomatic relations.

Fukaya said two officials from his ministry and KDD [Kokusai Denshin Denwa], a major Japanese international telecommunications conglomerate, will accompany the delegations to discuss preparations for establishing permanent satellite links between the two countries.

Current telephone circuits between Japan and North Korea are operated through shortwave radio, ministry officials said.

258 Chinese Boat People To Be Deported 22 Sep

OW2109115790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1122 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Japan will deport 258 boat people from China on Saturday after designating them as economically motivated illegal entrants posing as Indochinese refugees, the Foreign Ministry said Friday.

A Chinese-chartered passenger ship will repatriate the Chinese nationals from Nagasaki to Fuzhou, the capital of the southeastern Chinese Province of Fujian, from where most of the returnees left on boats, officials said.

The transportation marks the fifth in a series of Japan's repatriation work since last December. The ship will leave on Saturday afternoon.

Three babies born to Chinese mothers among the refugees after they arrived in Japan will also go to China on the ship.

From May last year to March this year, a total of 2,844 Chinese, mostly farmers, have arrived at western Japanese coasts in a total of 23 boats.

The Japanese authorities, ruling that they attempted to enter Japan to seek employment, have so far deported 1,520 refugees plus nine babies born in Japan.

Firm To Form Electronics Joint Ventures in PR

OW2009143590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1335 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—NEC Corp. said Thursday it has signed contracts with the Chinese Government on two joint ventures to make electronic switching systems and large-scale integration (LSI) chips, both the first such undertakings by a Japanese firm.

Under one contract, a joint venture will be formed with Tianjin Zhonghuan Computer Co., the Tianjin Post and Telecommunications Administration, and Sumitomo Corp., a major Japanese trading firm, to produce switching systems.

The other contract calls for a joint venture with Shoudu Iron and Steel Co. to manufacture LSIs, which will be used for switching systems initially but for home electric appliances later.

The two projects will cost a total of 34,345 million yen (about 250 million dollars), NEC said.

Local production of switching systems will enable China to raise the ratio of telephone sets per 100 people from one to three sets by the year 2000, the company said.

While the Japanese and Chinese Governments have yet to approve the joint ventures, NEC expects permission in a few months, it said.

The joint venture for switching systems, Tianjin-NEC Electronics and Communications Industry Co., will be based in Tianjin. NEC will own 35 percent and Sumitomo 5 percent while the Chinese partners will share 60 percent. Sumitomo will set up distribution channels and supply maintenance for switching systems.

The Beijing-based LSI joint venture, Shougang-NEC Electronics Co., will be owned 40 percent by NEC and 60 percent by Shoudou Iron and Steel.

Greek, Australian Premiers Meet Emperor Akihito

OW1909062690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0341 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 19 (KYODO)—The prime ministers of Greece and Australia met Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko at the Imperial Palace on Wednesday, officals of the Imperial Household Agency said.

Greek Prime Minister Konstantinos Mitsotakis and his Australian counterpart Robert Hawke had separate meetings with the imperial couple. Both premiers were accompanied by their wives.

They came to Tokyo to lobby the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in its selection of the site for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games. Athens and the Australian city of Melbourne were among the six candidates to host the games, but the IOC voted Tuesday evening to award them to Atlanta in the United States.

Australian Prime Minister Hawke Begins Visit

DPRK Nuclear Capability Noted

OW1909131590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1242 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 19 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Wednesday if international pressure should be applied to North Korea so it will accede to mandatory inspections of its nuclear facilities and ensure that it is not building nuclear weapons, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Nakayama made the remarks in a 30-minute meeting with Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke after Hawke told him Australia is concerned about the prospect of Pyongyang's development of a nuclear weapons capability.

"Countries of the world should cooperate in exerting international pressure on North Korean to accept inspections," Nakayama was quoted as saying.

North Korea is a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, but has yet to open its nuclear facilities to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as required of all treaty signatories.

Nakayama dismissed proposals for the establishment of an Asia-Pacific version of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), telling Hawke the region is too diverse and complex in terms of religion, geography, politics, culture, and ethnicity. He said before such a concept can be seriously considered, it is first important to resolve regional issues, such as the tension on the Korean peninsula and the conflict in Cambodia.

Australian Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister Gareth Evans has proposed the establishment of a conference on Security and Cooperation in Asia (CSCA), first on a sub-regional basis and then on an all-embracing basis.

Evans has said the existence of obvious differences between Europe and Asia should not inhibit the latter from emulating the former in searching for imaginative new approaches to confidence-building and problem-solving between old adversaries.

The topic of Asia-Pacific security is expected to top the agenda at a dinner meeting of Asia-Pacific foreign ministers September 27 in New York, where ceremonies will be held to mark the start of the 45th United Nations General Assembly.

At the meeting, Evans and his counterparts from Canada and the Soviet Union are expected to press the CSCA concept in the face of opposition by Nakayama and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

Hawke, who is making his first visit to Japan in three years, is scheduled to meet Friday with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. Officials said the two are likely to discuss their countries' respective responses to the situation in the Persian Gulf.

Speaks to Entrepreneurs

OW2009092190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0645 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said Thursday it is "high time" for Japan to start liberalizing its rice market, dismissing Japan's argument that it needs to maintain self-sufficiency in rice.

Hawke, in a keynote address delivered to the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, also advised Japanese entrepreneurs to diversify their investment in Australia away from real estate, or risk an anti-Japanese backlash.

Noting that Australia has no direct self-interest in the rice trade, Hawke said Japan's commitment to agricultural reform is needed for a successful conclusion of multilateral trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

"Let me say bluntly that the self-sufficiency argument made by Japan in defense of its agricultural protection stands very awkwardly indeed with your tremendous successes as an international trader in nonfood goods," Hawke said.

He urged the audience to consider what would happen if other nations applied Japan's rice self-sufficiency argument to industrial products.

Australia is a major exporter of agricultural products, but rice is not among its main crops.

Hawke lauded the burgeoning trade between the two countries, which he said reached 2.5 trillion yen last year.

But he warned Japan to be more "creative" in placing investments, 92 percent of which he said are funneled into real estate and tourism.

"We do not see ourselves solely as a purveyor of leisure services," he said, urging investors to put their money toward joint ventures instead.

"Some Australians, contemplating Japanese investment in our country, have failed to overcome the trauma of wartime memories," he said. "Others misinterpret any foreign investment as an abrogation of Australian sovereignty," he said.

The Australian premier emphasized, however, that such attitudes are held by a minority of citizens, and "have no legitimate place in Australian society."

"Australians will continue to create a tolerant, cosmopolitan and multicultural society ... free of any discrimination on the grounds of race. To do otherwise would be both morally repugnant and economically insane," Hawke said.

Australia, a major supplier of raw materials, is one of the few countries which enjoys a major trade surplus with Japan. Japan has invested some 9 billion Australian dollars in his country, the prime minister said.

Hawke came to Japan to attend the International Olympic Committee meeting that chose the site for the 1996 Olympic Games earlier this week. He is to wind up his five-day visit on Thursday.

Welcomes Japanese Investment

OW2009081390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0701 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke expressed satisfaction over Japan's investments in his country despite criticism from some quarters at the growing presence of Japanese industry there.

Hawke, now on a five-day visit to Japan, made the remarks at a luncheon meeting with the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), attended by Australian Government officials and Japanese business leaders, including Morio Akita, chairman of Sony Corp., and Shoichiro Toyoda, president of Toyota Motor Corp.

Hawke was quoted as saying that despite widely reported criticism of Japan's aggressive advances into Australia, there is actually little opposition to Japanese investments.

Responding to the remarks, Keidanren Chairman Eishiro Saito said the Japanese business community will promote investments that are really beneficial to the country, Kazuo Nukazawa, Keidanren's managing director said in a briefing.

Nukazawa quoted Saito as saying that Japanese business circles understand Japan's active purchases of real estate have contributed little to the Australian economy and that such activities should be moderated.

Japan was the biggest foreign investor in Australian real estate in fiscal 1988-89, accounting for 5 billion Australian dollars, or one-third of all foreign investments in the sector.

Hawke was also quoted as saying that Australia particularly seeks investment in such areas as high-technology and the environment preservation-related sector.

The Australian prime minister also said the country wants Japan to buy more Australian manufactured goods as well as raw materials and agricultural products, a request which brought a positive reaction from the Japanese participants.

Urges Import of Rice

OW2009110790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0920 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODO—Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke told Japan's Agricultural Minister on Thursday that Japan does not have to be self-sufficient in rice to secure adequate supply, ministry officials said Thursday.

In a 45-minute meeting with Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Minister Tomio Yamamoto, Hawke said with global coordination and cooperation, Japan can maintain supply of rice and other farm products through imports, the officials said.

Hawke, is on a six-day visit to Japan. He stressed the necessity for countries to ignore minor differences in order to accomplish a common goal, an apparent demand for Japan to liberalize its rice market. Japan's near total ban on rice imports has been under growing criticism recently as world efforts are gaining steam to produce an agreement on the Uruguay Round multilateral trade liberalizing talks.

In the four-year round, held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), agriculture has proved the stickiest issue of the 15 fields under negotiation, blocking the way to a successful conclusion of the talks by the deadline in December.

Yamamoto agreed with Hawke that the Uruguay Round should finish successfully, calling the talks "the largest concern at present." But on account of the nation's low food self-sufficiency, at about 30 percent, it is desirable for Japan to produce its own rice, especially with the Persian Gulf crisis, Yamamoto was quoted as saying.

Meets Kaifu, Ends Visit

OW2009143290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1402 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 20 KYODo—Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke pledged Thursday to back Japan in its long-standing territorial dispute with the Soviet Union, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

Hawke told Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu that he is aware of the importance to Japan of the four disputed islands east of Hokkaido—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan, and the Habomais, the official said. He expressed the hope that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan planned for next April will produce a solution that is acceptable to Japan, the official said in a briefing to reporters.

Japan, which describes the islands as its inherent territory, has long called for their return. They have been occupied by the Soviet Union since the end of World War II.

Kaifu, describing Japan and Australia as the economic anchors of the Asia-Pacific region, said increased bilateral cooperation is more important than ever in the aftermath of changes in East Europe.

Hawke told Kaifu he hopes to see a steady reduction of tensions in Asia, as has happened in Europe.

The two leaders discussed the measures they have taken so far to help resolve the Persian Gulf crisis. Hawke appreciated Japan's 2 billion dollar contribution to the multinational force in the Gulf and another 2 billion dollars in economic assistance to Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey, whose economies have been hard hit by the crisis, the Japanese official said.

The two leaders agreed to continue to work for a peaceful solution to the 12-year conflict in Cambodia.

On bilateral relations, Hawke urged Japan to focus future investment in his country in the high technology and manufacturing sectors to balance its portfolio, dominated by real estate.

Hawke said 92 percent of the 9 billion Australian dollars Japan has invested in his country is in either real estate or tourism.

Hawke was here to attend the International Olympic Committee meeting, where the Australian city of Melbourne lost out to Atlanta in the United States as the site of the 1996 Olympics. He concluded his five-day visit after dinner with Kaifu.

Agreement With EC on Auto Export Monitoring

OW1209151490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1401 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 12 KYODO—Japan will continue monitoring its car exports to the European Community

[EC] during a five-year transition period after the EC's elimination of country-by-country import restrictions, government sources said Wednesday.

Japan has agreed to the EC's request that it continue the monitoring, which is expected to prevent Japanese car exports to the region from increasing rapidly, in bilateral exploratory talks, the sources, at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), said.

The two sides also agreed to continue the current bilateral talks on Japan's auto exports, the sources said.

Japan's decision to maintain restraints on car exports to the EC after its market integration is basically in line with the EC foreign ministers' agreement in June over the issue.

The ministers agreed that France, Italy, Britain, Portugal, and Spain will start phasing out quantitative restrictions on Japanese auto imports in 1991.

They also agreed that a transition period would be needed after the elimination of existing curbs to prevent a sudden increase in Japanese car shipments.

The focus of the exploratory talks has been whether cars built at Japanese-owned plants in the EC member nations should be treated as European or Japanese cars.

The EC Commission has apparently committed itself to persuading such protectionist countries as France and Italy to exempt cars produced in Japanese plants in the region from the monitoring.

But whether that stance will prevail remains to be seen, the MITI sources said.

The EC countries remain bitterly divided over how long the transition period should be before complete liberation. Britain, West Germany, and the Netherlands want a brief transition period, while France, Italy, and Spain want a long one.

French Minister for European Affairs Edith Cresson has said Paris would block any deal with Tokyo which did not give France a 10-year transition period, and that did not encompass so-called transplant production of Japanese cars in the EC.

Britain has been limiting Japanese car imports to around 11 percent of its market, but France restricts such imports to 3 percent. Italy, Spain, and Portugal, rather than percentage limits, have tight restrictions on the number of Japanese cars that can be imported.

The planned scrapping of internal borders after 1992 would make national import quotas hard to administer, but not impossible in the case of cars which, unlike other consumer goods, are subject to national registration.

Japan may be forced to agree to country-by-country monitoring on exports to these protectionist countries so that the EC Commission can talk those countries into agreeing to exclude transplant production, the sources said. But "I doubt if we can make Japanese manufacturers consent to such a scheme," a MITI official said.

Japan has been monitoring auto exports to the EC since 1986. The government requires car makers to report their exports to the region each quarter.

Government officials deny that the monitoring is designed to restrict exports, insisting it is intended only to obtain an overall picture of exports. But the EC's request for continuation of the practice is apparently based on its recognition that it is a fairly effective way to prevent rapid growth in Japanese car shipments to the region.

High Oil Prices To Cause Economic Slowdown

OW2109082890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0705 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Economic growth in Japan, though now a dramatically less oil-dependent country than before, will suffer a moderate setback if oil prices remain at 25 dollars per barrel, according to an estimate unveiled Friday by the Economic Planning Agency (EPA).

A 25-dollar crude oil price level would shave Japan's gross national product (GNP)—the nation's total output of goods and services—by 0.2 percentage point in the initial fiscal year and by 0.3 point in any subsequent year, Hideyuki Aizawa, director general of the agency, told Friday's monthly cabinet meeting for economic ministers.

An average crude oil price of 25 dollars a barrel is 7 dollars higher than the price the agency originally estimated.

On Thursday, the EPA announced that the GNP rose an inflation-adjusted 0.9 percent in the April-June quarter, after increasing 2.7 percent in the preceding three-month period.

According to the agency's calculation method, the nation's personal spending would contract 0.1 point in the initial year and 0.3 point in the following year under the 25-dollar per barrel oil price.

Estimates show corporate capital investment in Japan also would drop by 0.6 point in the first fiscal year and 0.5 point in the following year, Aizawa reported at the meeting.

Under the agency's same projections, Japan's current account surplus as a percentage of nominal GNP would be slashed by 0.4 point, both in the first and second year.

Meanwhile, at Friday's monthly meeting of economic ministers, the EPA and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) remained widely divided on the disposition of the nation's 145-day reserve of crude oil, according to government officials.

The EPA, concerned about increasing inflationary pressure, has been insisting that Japan should be flexible in releasing the national oil stockpile to defend price stability and keep economic growth on track. But MITI remained opposed to the depletion of stockpile at an early stage and reiterated the ministry's view that such action should be taken only it the tense Middle East situation worsens, the officials said.

Economy Enters 46th Month of Uninterrupted Growth

OW2109035590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0113 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—Japan's economy entered its 46th month of uninterrupted growth in September, buttressed by strong personal spending and brisk corporate outlays, the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said in a monthly report Friday.

An agency official also told a press briefing that repercussions of spiraling oil prices in the wake of the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait "have yet to be felt on the economy."

The Bank of Japan (BOJ) on August 30 raised the official discount rate by 0.75 percentage point to 6.0 percent to ward off possible inflationary pressures arising from higher oil prices. It was the fifth rate hike since May last year.

The official declined, however, to comment on the future of the economy—which is in the second-longest period of continuous expansion since World War II, following the 57 months of sustained growth from November 1965 to July 1970—saying that "predictions are up to soothsayers."

The agency's report, which cited a quarterly BOJ survey taken in August on the short-term business outlook, said robust spending in both the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors continues to keep the economy vibrant.

According to the BOJ report, firms in the manufacturing sector had revised upward by 0.8 percentage point to 17.3 percent their spending plans for the current fiscal year from the last time the survey was conducted in May. Those in the nonmanufacturing sector had raised their spending plans by 0.9 point to 8.8 percent.

Personal spending, another mainspring of the economy, remains steady, as reflected in the rise in housing starts and household spending, the EPA report said.

The report also noted that firms are feeling the pinch from the current labor squeeze, which many feel has tightened another notch.

Exports, led by the increase in shipments of machinery and tools, have grown gradually, it said.

Imports are also steadily rising too, bolstered by the growth in imports of raw materials and manufactured goods.

Survey Shows Business Confidence Remains Strong

OW1109085890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0657 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 11 KYODO—Many Japanese companies remain bullish on their business outlook, despite the recent surge in oil prices stemming from the Persian Gulf crisis, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) said in a quarterly report released Tuesday.

The central bank's closely followed index of business sentiment for major manufacturers crept down to 46 from 48 in the previous survey conducted in May, but a bank official said the level of the index is still "considerably high."

The latest survey was taken in August, covering 4,060 companies nationwide, both manufacturers and nonmanufacturers, including 691 major corporations.

The index is compiled by subtracting the percentage of corporations expecting a business pickup from that of companies anticipating a contraction.

But the latest survey shows that raw-materials businesses such as chemical and paper-pulp makers are less optimistic than in the previous survey.

In particular, the index for paper-pulp companies fell into the minus column, dipping to a negative 7 from a positive 14 in May.

The Bank of Japan official, briefing reporters on details of the report, said paper-pulp manufacturers appear affected by sagging prices of paper products and the increased interest burden due to higher interest rates.

"Given earnings performances, the survey does not mean conditions are bad for raw-materials suppliers," he said.

The latest survey put the index for major nonmanufacturers at 50, up from 48 in May.

The Bank of Japan official said business conditions for nonmanufacturers look good in general except for leasing companies.

Leasing companies appear annoyed by high interest rates, which tend to squeeze their earnings, the official said.

Business conditions are good not only for major companies but also for small and medium-sized businesses, according to the survey. But it provided the latest evidence of a tightening labor market, which has made it difficult for an increasing number of companies, regardless of size and industry, to find enough suitable workers. It also shows that many of them expect the labor market to get tighter toward the end of this year.

The index for business sentiment toward employment, for example, stood at minus 41 compared with minus 37 in May, eclipsing the previous record of minus 40 set in

February this year. The index is the percentage of companies reporting a surplus of workers minus the percentage reporting shortages.

On the price front, the survey shows many manufacturers facing increased pressures to raise prices of their products as the cost of purchasing materials and components is on the rise. But the central bank official briefing reporters said these findings are not due to rising oil prices, but stem from the yen's relative weakness early this year.

A weaker yen makes imports more expensive for Japanese manufacturers. But not many companies have raised prices of their products to offset the increased cost of imports.

Asked to comment on the impact of the rise in oil prices, the official said energy-consuming industries such as the chemical, nonferrous metal, and utilities industries may have taken into account the high oil prices in responding to the survey.

"It's possible that they discounted the surge in oil prices, as they generally reported less optimism about their business outlook," he said. But the official said the survey does not offer a clear signal of the inflationary effects of higher oil prices on domestic businesses.

Proposal Made To Scrap Tariffs on 2,200 Items

OW1709174890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1049 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 17 KYODO—The government has proposed that tariffs on some 2,200 industrial products be scrapped in line with the multilateral trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) being held in Geneva, government officials said Monday.

Tariffs on about one third of manufactured goods, including televisions, videotape recorders, and most industrial machinery and machine tools will be eliminated, the officials said. The hit list also includes chemical products like fertilizers, glass, film, and rubber products, they said.

The United States and Canada have already announced plans to abolish tariffs on some 1,000 mutually agreed items. The U.S. list includes steel, chemicals, and lumber products, while Canada has targeted telecommunications equipment, chemicals, and marine products.

International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto announced the plan at the recent meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group in Vancouver.

The final list of items subject to tariff elimination will depend on mutual agreement reached at the trade negotiations, the officials said.

The average tariff imposed by Japan accounted for 3.4 percent of the import value in 1988, according to the Finance Ministry. But Japan virtually abolished tariffs on some 1,000 items last April without reporting the cuts to the GATT. The move lowered the average ratio of tariffs to imports to slightly above 3 percent.

Among the 2,200 products that are on the new tariff cut list are a number of the products included in the 1,000 targeted in April. If tariffs are eliminated on all of the 2,200 products, Japan's average tariff on industrial goods will account for less than 3 percent of the import value.

Tariffs imposed by Japan, along with Sweden and other Scandinavian countries, would then be among the lowest for industrial products, according to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

North Korea

U.S. Called 'Agressors' for 17-18 Sep Exercise

SK2109050090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors on September 16 brought formations of Japan-based F-16 fighter-bombers to the Osan Airforce Base in South Korea and on September 17 let them fly above Wonju and Chechon for a war exercise against the North in coordination with formations of various types of fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Seventh Airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce, according to military sources.

On the 17th and 18th, they deployed formations of Iwakuni-based FA-18, A-6, EA-6 pursuit-assault planes, assault planes and electronic jamming planes and a Guam-based KC-135 refueling tanker in the Osan Air Base and let Guam-based KC-135 refueling tankers fly above Sosan and Oeyondo in an exercise of mid-air refueling to formations of F-16 fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Seventh Airforce.

In the same period, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets mobilized F-16, F-15, F-4, F-5 and A-37 fighter-bombers and assault planes belonging to the U.S. Seventh Airforce and the puppet airforce to stage frantic joint air striking exercises in the sky above Anmyondo, Wonju, Pyongchang, Sangju and Kongju.

The U.S. imperialists on September 18 sent Okinawa-based E-3 AWACS to the air above the military demarcation line for an electronic espionage against targets in the depths and sky above the northern half of Korea, while letting it command flying corps mobilized in an aerial war exercise.

The planes mobilized in aerial war exercises under various names on September 17 and 18 totalled more than 1,200.

The intensifying reckless war gambles of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets show that they are not interested in the North-South dialogue and detente but are still running amok in increasing the danger of war.

NODONG SINMUN on ROK Aid to Gulf

SK2109050190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 21 Sep 90

["Criminal Act of South Korean Authorities"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the South Korean authorities' decision to grant 150 million dollars this year for the maintenance of the U.S. forces in the Gulf.

This is a direct result of the U.S. criminal plan to "internationalise" the armed intervention in the Middle East, notes the news analyst, and continues:

The South Korean puppets' involvement in the U.S. imperialists' armed intervention is a grave betrayal of the Korean people who love justice, and a challenge to the world's progressive people and peace forces including those in the Middle East who cherish peace and independence. This is an act going against the trend of the times toward detente, disarmament and withdrawal of foreign troops and military bases.

The South Korean puppets revealed once again their miserable and mean sight as colonial stooges by sharing the burden of the upkeep of the U.S. forces in the Middle East, while bearing billions of dollars for the maintenance of the U.S. forces for their permanent occupation of South Korea.

The No Tae-u group plans to prop up the shaking foundation of the colonial fascist rule under the patronage of the U.S. imperialists in reward for its involvement in the master's armed intervention in the Middle East. But this is a foolish idea.

In order to improve the acute situation and settle the disputes peacefully in the Gulf, the U.S. aggression forces must be pulled out of this region at an early date and the South Korean puppets' involvement in the armed intervention must be checked decisively.

South Korean Defector Addresses Meeting

SK2009112190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 20 (KCNA)—Chon Kye-pong, a South Korean young man who came over to the northern half of the country some time ago, was accorded warm welcome by working people at a Pyongyang mass meeting held today.

He, 31, worked at the Yongjin Boiler Company Ltd. in Seoul before coming over here through a third country.

At the meeting Chon Kye-pong was awarded an Order of the Republic and a large sum of monetary prize and received souvenirs.

Addressing the meeting, Sin An-pang, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, said Chon's defection was a righteous act reflecting the longing of the South Korean workers and other people for the northern half of the country and an expression of his resistance against the heinous military fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group.

In his reply Chon Kye-pong said the northern half of the Republic where everyone lives in his own house without any worry, free from discrimination and inequality, is a true society for the working masses, stressing that a paradise for people's welfare could be built as they have the great leader.

The North, he said, where the soul of our nation remains alive, is, indeed, a true motherland firmly promising the future of the nation.

Referring to the valiant struggle of the South Korean people against the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule and the puppet clique's military fascist dictatorship and for national reunification which is gaining further momentum with each passing day, he said the No Tae-u group, a separatist force, can never stem this trend. The just struggle of the people for independence, democracy and reunification will certainly emerge victorious, he added.

Expressing the firm belief that the day of reunification will surely come, he vowed to devote his all, body and soul, to the sacred cause of reunification.

Foreign Ministers Support N-S Reunification

SK2109042590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—The prime ministers of different countries recently voiced support to the Korean people's cause of reunification.

Mary Eugenia Charles, prime minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica, when she met the Korean ambassador to her country, said that the proposal put forward by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to pull down the concrete wall, a symbol of division, and realize free travel and complete opening between the North and the South is very important.

The question of Korea's reunification must be settled through dialogue and negotiations between the the North and the South without foreign interference, she declared.

Kazi Zafar Ahmed, prime minister of Bangladesh, who met a delegation of the DPRK Foreign Ministry, stressed that neither side of Korea should unilaterally enter the United Nations.

Prime Minister of Saint Lucia John George Melvin Compton, when the newly-appointed Korean ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to his country paid a courtesy call on him, hoped that Korea's reunification would be realized at an early date through a successful North-South dialogue.

KCNA Comments on No's 'Cabinet Reshuffle'

SK2109043790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 21 Sep 90

["'Cabinet Reshuffle' in South Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—No Tae-u in a partial "cabinet reshuffle" Wednesday replaced the "construction minister", the "agricultural, forestry and fisheries minister" and the "environmental minister" with others, according to a report.

An announcement of "Chongwadae" that day said the "construction minister" was fired, held responsible for "insufficient measures" to control the flood, the "agricultural, forestry and fisheries minister" for failure to effectively cope with the peasants' rallies against the opening of market to agricultural and livestock products.

This announcement reveals that the "reshuffle" was intended to quell the protest of the people.

The South Korean authorities, as they usually do, dismiss a few "ministers," shifting all the responsibilities for their anti-popular crimes onto them in a bid to lull the people's protest.

It is a serious mistake, if the South Korean authorities think they can evade their responsibility by this.

ROK Party Demands Government Resignations

SK2109043590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—The South Korean opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) demanded the resignation of the "prime minister," the "minister of construction," the "home minister" and the "mayor of Seoul," contending that "the recent flood damages were a man-caused calamity that resulted from the authorities' neglect of anti-flood measures", according to a report.

In a statement dated September 18, the PPD contended that "nearly all the flood damages were caused by the defects or breakdown of pumping equipment and 180,000 flood sufferers were victims of the mistakes of the authorities who ignored the demand of the population for safety measures."

The PPD announced that it would send fact-finding teams to the flooded places of Seoul, the spot of destroyed dam in Koyang County, the place buried under silt in Songrim-tong, Inchon, and the Chungju Dam and Hoengsong, South Korean Kangwon Province, and so on.

Yi Chong-ok Leaves for Asian Games in Beijing

SK2109105790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—DPRK Vice-President Yi Chong-ok and his entourage left here today to participate in functions of the 11th Asian Games in Beijing upon the invitation of the Chinese Government.

They were seen off at the airport by Vice-President Pak Song-chol, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cha Pong-chu and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi.

Kim Il-song Receives More Anniversary Greetings

SK2109044090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0414 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received messages of greetings from Sam Nujoma, president of the Republic of Namibia; Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, president of the Military Committee of National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and secretary general of the Polisario Front; Noor Hassanali, president of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago; John George Melvin Compton, prime minister of Saint Lucia; Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic; and Phichai Rattakun, leader of the Democratic Party of Thailand [as received] on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of the DPRK founding.

The messages warmly greeted the DPRK birthday and wished the Korean people progress and prosperity.

Kim Il-song Greets President of Madagascar

SK2109050790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings Thursday to Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the signing of the Korea-Madagascar Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

The message says:

The signing of the Korea-Madagascar Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation marked an important occasion in expanding and developing friendship and solidarity between our two peoples onto a higher stage.

Over the past 12 years, our two peoples have supported and cooperated closely with each other in the struggle for independence against imperialism and made an active contribution to safeguarding peace and strengthening and developing the non-aligned movement.

The Korean people always express firm solidarity for the Malagasy people's just cause of building a new society and converting the Indian Ocean into a peace zone along the road indicated by the socialist revolutionary charter under your leadership.

We set great store by the support and encouragement of the Malagasy people to our people's struggle for socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and believe that the friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries will grow stronger and develop with every passing day in the future.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I sincerely wish you and your people greater success in the work for the independent development and prosperity of the country.

Receives Message

SK2109050990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message of greetings dated September 17 from President Didier Ratsiraka of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the signing of the Korea-Madagascar Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

The message says:

As you know, the government of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar regards it as its duty to support the positive efforts you and the Korean people are exerting for the reunification of the country.

Under the present situation when the question of Korea's reunification evokes concern of the international public it is a significant progress on the road to reunification that the North-South high-level talks opened thanks to your initiative and unremitting efforts and such problems as detente and disarmament, multifaceted cooperation and exchange between the North and the South and their U.N. membership are discussed at the talks.

I wish the North-South high-level talks success and will support the proposal for a single U.N. membership of the North and the South in case they should enter it before Korea's reunification is achieved.

Affirming you of the support of the Malagasy Government and people to the Korean people's struggle for socialist construction and the country's reunification, I express the conviction that the relations between our two countries will continue developing in scope as in the past, so in the future, too.

With highest, fraternal considerations to you comrade president, my dear brother.

Leaders Attend Meeting for Malian Anniversary

SK2009113190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 20 (KCNA)—A meeting was held here today to mark the 30th anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of Mali.

Attending the meeting were Yun Ki-chong, minister of finance and chairperson of the Korea-Mali Friendship Association, Pak Tong-chun, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, other officials concerned and working people in the city.

A message of greetings to President Moussa Traore was adopted after a speech at the meeting.

National Gerontology, Geriatrics Congress Held

SK2009112590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 20 (KCNA)—The fourth national congress on gerontology and geriatrics was held at the People's Palace of Culture from September 18 to 20.

Present there were director of the Korean Red Cross Polyclinic Hospital Kim Su-hak, specialists in gerontology and geriatrics, medical workers and delegations and delegates from Romania, Mongolia, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, Poland, the Soviet Union, Hungary, the World Health Organization and the International Association of Gerontology.

A delegate of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) was also present.

Presented there were over 200 scientific treatises on the achievements and experience gained in the study of the cause of aging, ways of prolonging life, prophylaxis, diagnosis and treatment of the disease of the aged, old age hygienics, etc.

The congress will mark an important occasion in widely introducing and generalizing the achievements in gerontology and geriatrics and developing exchanges between countries.

The C.C.[Central Committee], the Korean Medical Society entertained the participants in the congress to a party.

Scientific Symposium on Kim Il-song Work

SK2009110790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 20 (KCNA)—A scientific symposium was held here today to mark the 25th anniversary of the publication of the work of the great leader President Kim Il-song "To Give Full Play to the Great Vitality of the Unified and Detailed Planning of the National Economy".

Present at the symposium were Choe Yong-nim, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, and officials concerned.

President Kim Il-song in his speech delivered at a general meeting of the party organization of the State Planning Commission on September 23, 1965, gave an overall scientific exposition of the theoretical and practical questions arising in drawing up plans such as the essence and function of the socialist planning, its balance and ways [passage indistinct], the principles and methods of the position and role of the planning bodies and the question of enhancing the party spirit, working class spirit and serve-the-people spirit of planning workers, the speakers noted.

They said that the work is a highly important document in the development of the socialist planning because it expounds with originality the essence of the socialist planning on the basis of the chuche idea, thus making the planning of the national economy fully serve for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of chuche as a powerful weapon of the revolution and construction.

It is a highly important work also because it expounds the basic idea of planning and scientifically and theoretically indicates a solution to the balance problem based on the principle of the mass line, they added.

By showing the way of making the planning unified and detailed, they stressed, the work makes it possible to strictly keep to the revolutionary principle of the working class and bring the advantages of socialism into full play.

The truth and validity of the theory of socialist planning articulated in the work have been borne out by good results in the practice of economic construction, the speakers said.

Kang Song-san Exhorts Chongjin City Workers

SK2009112990 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0900 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Excerpt] All party members and working people in North Hamgyong Province have unanimously turned out in struggle to thoroughly carry out the on-the-spot guidance given by the great leader, and the militant tasks recently given by the party, and have effected great successes daily in every work site. By so doing, for approximately 10 days recently, they have created the innovation of increasing the total amount of industrial production by 115.3 percent over the previous same period of time.

The entire province is brimming over with high revolutionary enthusiasm and military spirit as the 45th anniversary party's founding approaches. At this time, a Chongjin City working people's rally was held at Chongjin stadium to thoroughly carry out the programmatic guidance given by the great leader during his on-the-spot guidance in North Hamgyong Province in August and September 1990, and to carry out the militant tasks given by the party recently.

The rally was attended by Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, responsible secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee, and chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee; and responsible functionaries of local government and party organizations, administrative and economic organs, and working people's organizations with approximately 50,000 working people in the city.

At the rally, Comrade Kang Song-san made a report:

[Begin Kang recording] Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and our people, made his 32d visit to North Hamgyong Province from 16 August to 3 September, and gave on-the-spot guidance to various national economic fields in the province.

The great leader, who has devoted his whole life to giving constant on-the-spot guidance for the prosperity of the country and happiness of the people, visited our province this time and gave on-the-spot guidance to various units. In addition, he convened a council of the economic functionaries of North Hamgyong Province and gave a programmatic guidance which will be a policy in further developing the national economy in the province.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, dear leader of our party and our people, who is trying to brilliantly realize the lofty intention of the great leader, has put forward the militant tasks arising in developing the national economy in the province and in improving the people's living standard.

The on-the-spot guidance and on-the-spot guidance remarks, given by the great leader and dear leader during their visit to North Hamgyong Province this time, are programmatic guidance which is of significance in developing the national economy in the province into a new higher stage and in further improving the people's living standard. In addition, they are an energetic banner which powerfully inspires our party members and the working people to launch a final lightning battle to successfully carry out the Third Seven-Year Plan. [applause] [end recording]

Stressing that all the party members and the working people in the province are now unanimously turning out in struggle to carry out the programmatic tasks, given by the great leader during his guidance on-the-spot to the various fields of the national economy of North Hamgyong Province, the reporter continued as follows:

[Begin Kang recording] The great leader and dear leader have elucidated a bright prospect and method to develop the national economy in the province into a new higher stage and to further improve the people's living standard. In addition, they have given great warm love and consideration to the people in the province.

We should highly display the self-reliant revolutionary spirit in struggle to carry out the on-the-spot guidance and remarks given by the comrade great leader and comrade dear leader. And, we should tide over new difficulties of every kind with our own strength, making what we do not have and seeking more of what is in short supply.

We should further kindle the flames of struggle to create a new speed of the 1990's. By so doing, we should effect a new revolutionary upsurge in production and construction, so as to thoroughly carry out, quickly and unconditionally, the militant tasks put forward by the comrade great leader and comrade dear leader.

All leading functionaries should consolidate a high revolutionary spirit and militant strength, and always stand in the van of the ranks. And, with a bold operation, skilled guidance, and powerful militant work, they should inspire the party members and the working people to carry out the on-the-spot guidance of the great leader and on-the-spot guidance remarks given by dear comrade leader.

Victory and glory are always in store for our people who live and carry out the revolution under the wise leadership and constant consideration of the great leader and dear comrade leader.

Everyone should turn out as one with ardent loyalty to the party and the leader, to carry out the on-the-spot guidance given by the great leader and the on-the-spot guidance remarks given by dear comrade leader. By so doing, let us effect a great new upsurge and turn in developing the national economy in the province and in improving the people's living standard. [applause] [end recording] [passage omitted]

* North Type of Socialism Source of 'Pride'

902C0284 Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean 10 Jul 90 p 2

[Article by Pak Hye-sam: "Our Type of Socialism Is the Source of Our People's High National Pride"]

[Text] Today, with a high national pride, our people continue to display the high superiority of socialism along the path pointed to by our great leader in his policy speech.

The basic source of strength making our people highly display the honor of the nation with a high national pride lies in the fact that they are led by the great leader and the great party, and that they are building a superior socialism under the banner of chuche.

The dear Comrade Kim Chong-il elucidated in various literature that the superior socialism of our type forms the social headspring of a high national pride for our people.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the WPK [Workers Party of Korea] Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, pointed out:

"Our type of socialism is the social basis that gives our people the our-nation-first spirit; to keep adding luster to it is precisely the purpose of our displaying the our-nation-first spirit."

The national pride and confidence primarily derives from the revolutionary assets the nation has created, namely, the revolutionary gains it has made. The bigger and greater the revolutionary gains, the higher the national pride and confidence.

Our type of socialism is precisely one of the most precious revolutionary gains our people have made.

Basically speaking, the social system is the grounds on which the people live and work. Only under a good social system, can the life of the people be a happy one, can the prosperity of the nation be guaranteed firmly and can all the great and fine revolutionary assets created shine forever in history.

How fully the honor and excellence of the nation comes into bloom is also determined by how superior the social system is. Only the nations interested in choosing and developing a superior social system can attain prosperity and live with a high national pride and confidence in their hearts.

The socialist system in our country is a revolutionary gain our people have won through their own struggles. It is the most superior system they have chosen and developed for themselves. Precisely for that reason, they are proud of it. Indeed, it cannot but be a great pride for our people that they have built the true socialism which mankind had dreamed of for a long, long time, which many revolutionaries fought bloody battles for. Our people have built their socialism along the path they chose for themselves, with their own resources and in their own style and that is why they are proud of it and attached to it even deeper.

The reason why our type of socialism brings forth a high national pride and confidence is that it is built with the chuche ideology—an ideology centering on the masses of people—as its guiding ideology, its guiding theory and its guiding method.

As elucidated by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, socialism—regardless of its nationality—represents an advanced society that essentially differs from any exploitative society in the history of mankind. However, since there are differences between countries in terms of the environments and conditions they are in, in terms of guiding ideologies, theories and methods they rely on in their revolution and construction, there would come differences in the way they build their socialism and in the specific form of socialist systems thus built.

How superior the socialism of each country is and how proud of it the people are depends on how that socialism satisfies the aspirations and demands of the masses of people of that country. The more thoroughly a socialism satisfies the people's aspiration to, and demand for, the independent stand and attitude, which is the life of man, the higher becomes their pride in it.

Our type of socialism is built with the chuche ideology—an ideology protecting and safeguarding the independent stand and attitude—as its guiding ideology, its guiding theory, and its guiding method. It thoroughly satisfies the demands for giving full play to man's intrinsic characters—namely, the independent stand and attitude, and creativity—as well as the consciousness of the masses.

Our people cherish a high pride and confidence in their hearts for the fact that this socialism of our style is the topnotch socialism.

The reason why our type of socialism gives our people a high national pride and confidence is, first of all, that it is a socialism thoroughly run through with chuche.

The independent stand and attitude is most vital for a country and its people. Only with it comes the national dignity and honor, pride and confidence. The people living subjugated to and dependent on others cannot have their pride or confidence.

If a country and its people are to enjoy high dignity and be mighty, they must continue to strengthen and develop thenselves ceaselessly along the path of self-dependence, self-support and self-reliant defense. Only when the self-dependence in politics, the self-support in the economy and the self-reliance in national defense are realized can the independence and sovereign rights of the nation be guaranteed and its self-dependent, creative developments attained.

Our country has consistently followed the path of self-dependence, self- support and self-defense, building itself into a proud, independent socialist country run through with chuche and firmly promoting the independent stand and attitude in every area without being subjugated to or relying on others.

It is dedicated to self-dependent government defending and promoting the political self-reliance of the masses of people, the masters of society. It walks on its own feet while satisfying the material demands of the people on the self-support basis and, at the same time, independently safeguards its national security and the revolutionary gains in a reliable manner. This is the proud picture of our self-dependent socialist country run through with chuche. For the fact that they have built such a powerful socialist country run through with chuche so thoroughly, our people have the highest national pride and confidence deep in their hearts.

Another reason why our people are most proud and confident of our type of socialism is that it is being developed on the basis of the powerful chuche of the revolution representing the unity of the leader, the party and the masses of people.

That all the members of society live a self-dependent and creative life, forming a single, living socio-political entity and sharing the same destiny, is man's intrinsic demand. Only in the social system satisfying that demand can people have a high pride and confidence. In a society like under capitalism—where people, influenced by their greed for political power and money, are divided into different parties and factions and engage in dogfights, with the stronger preying upon the weaker, and where immorality and corruption prevails—there can be no such thing as a pride in social system.

The powerful chuche of the revolution, represented by the monolithic body of the leader, the party and the masses, is the basic driving force for developments of the socialist society. With the powerful chuche of the revolution, nothing is impossible and no hardships are unsurmountable. Therefore, the people who have their powerful chuche seethe with the national pride.

Today, in our country, the leader and the party and the masses are united as one, which is the greatest pride of all that our people have. Thanks to their mighty, wholehearted unity, exciting events are unfolding uninterruptedly in this country, further enhancing the national pride and confidence. Last year, gigantic projects marking the World Festival of Youth and Students, such as the Kwangbok and Chongchun street construction, were brought to completion swiftly and the Festival and other big events were held most successfully. Those and other amazing developments that took place in all areas powerfully demonstrated the might of our socialism and the wholehearted unity it came to represent. Heroic events showing off the strength of our people and our party and the might of their wholehearted unity continue to unfold even at this moment, further stirring our people's national pride and confidence in our type of socialism.

Our type of socialism also provides all the members of society with a life befitting their intrinsic demands as social beings and the ideals of socialism. This is another point that accounts for their high national pride and confidence.

How superior a socialist system is and how high the national pride and confidence in it is largely depend on what kind of life the people have for themselves. People find a life worth living and happiness only in a living deserving of human dignity; in it, they come to feel a great pride and confidence in the social system that guarantees it for them.

What kind of living is it that deserves human dignity? This question must be considered on the basis of how the intrinsic demands of man as a self-dependent being are being satisfied in a given society.

It must be a living that satisfies the demands for being the masters of the state and society and for living in harmony while helping and leading one another, as well as the intrinsic demands of man for enjoying a worthy political life, a healthy material life and a rich cultural life. Otherwise, it cannot be a true living deserving of human dignity.

The socialism in our country embodying the chuche ideology is the genuine socialism that thoroughly satisfies the self-reliant demands of our people in all the political, cultural and material areas. Our people who, in the socialist society of chuche, are guaranteed with political freedoms and rights, enjoy a highly worthy and rewarding political life, each and every of them having the job security and being free of worries about living. Everybody is well off as there is no such thing as the gap between the rich and the poor. People visiting our country from around the world say that Number One is the Korean-type socialism under which everyone is evenly well off with no worries at all about living and enjoys stability and prosperity—not capitalism under which "the rich become richer" and "the poor become poorer." The socialism in our country rejects the rotten life of capitalist culture that corrupts and depraves people; it awakens people to self-dependence, fosters their creative capability and guarantees them a lofty cultural and moral life.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song stressed that we should give fuller play to the superiority of our socialism and, by doing so, continue to add luster to the honor and dignity of the nation.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught:

"We must, with a high national pride and revolutionary confidence, continue to hold aloft the banner of socialism in the East and accelerate the revolution and construction more vigorously."

The purpose of our party attaching importance to the matter of a high national pride even goes beyond the question of the national pride itself; by doing so, it seeks to build socialism even in a better way on its own and further enhance the dignity and honor of the nation. It is indeed important that we have the pride that our nation is not inferior to others, but more important is that we have the self-awareness and the will for not falling behind others in carving out the future for ourselves.

While shouldering the dignity and honor of the nation is not an easy thing, it is a more difficult thing to preserve and add luster to it.

Although victories and successes we already achieved are great indeed, our people must hold on to the revolutionary spirit of Paekdu and continue to wage dynamic struggles to give fuller play to the superiority of the socialist system in our country. Doing so is of great significance in frustrating the imperialists' anti-socialist maneuvers and accelerating the cause of self-dependence, too.

Cherishing deeply in our hearts the high national pride and confidence in the most superior socialism of our style which we have built, we must further enhance the honor of the nation and accelerate more dynamically the self-dependence cause of the masses of people, the cause of socialism.

In order to give fuller play to the superiority of the socialism in our country, we must continue to dynamically push ahead with the tasks of socialist construction set forth by our great leader in his policy speech and other historic works.

We must deeply recognize the superiority of our socialism and continue to give it fuller play and, by doing so, further enhance the honor and dignity of our people who are building the chuche socialism under the leadership of the party and the leader.

South Korea

Japan's Kaifu Consults No on DPRK Ties

SK2109033290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0309 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (OANA-YONHAP)—Japan will consult with South Korea at every step as it pursues diplomatic relations with North Korea, balancing progress with developments in Seoul's relations with Moscow and Beijing, the leaders of the two nations agreed on Friday.

President No Tae-u and Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, in a 20-minute telephone conference, discussed in detail Tokyo's moves to improve ties with Pyongyang, Presidential Spokesman Yi Su-chong said.

Kaifu pledged his nation's full cooperation with the South Korean Government in making diplomatic approaches to North Korea and promised to keep a balance with developments in Seoul's relations with the Soviet Union and China, Yi said.

Japan's former deputy prime minister, Shin Kanemaru, will visit North Korea on sept. 24-28 for talks on normalizing relations with the communist government. Kanemaru will deliver a letter from Kaifu apologizing for Japan's wrongdoings against Korea during its colonial rule and is expected to discuss details of exchanging liaison offices.

No told Kaifu that South Korea does not want to isolate North Korea, but stated clearly that Pyongyang-Tokyo relations should proceed in pace with South Korea's diplomatic improvements with China and the Soviet Union as well as North Korea's ties with the United States.

No added that Japan should take into consideration the progress of inter-Korean talks, the spokesman said.

The president also asked Japan to urge North Korea to sign the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear safeguards accord, the spokesman said.

DPRK Students in USSR Said To Defect to Seoul

SK2109085190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0802 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (YONHAP)—Three North Korean students studying in the Soviet Union have defected to South Korea and are under government protection, the government said Friday.

Han Song-ho, 22, Kim Chi-il, 26, and Chong Hyon, 25, arrived in South Korea between July and August, a spokesman for the government said. Han, a Russian literature major, fled on July 5 via a third country during his fifth year at the University of Moscow. Kim, an applied mechanics major, graduated from Kharkov University in the Ukraine and Chong was a senior majoring in metallurgy at Donetsk Engineering College in the Ukraine. Kim and Chong defected together on Aug. 4.

Including the three, five North Korean students have fled to South Korea while studying in the Soviet Union. Nam Myong-chol, 25, and Pak Chol-chin, 25, defected in April while they were seniors at the Leningrad Electric College.

The official, requesting anonymity, said, "We did not announce their defections immediately lest it have an adverse effect on President No Tae-u's July 20 (peace initiative) declaration and the inter-Korean prime ministers' talks (in September)."

Han, Kim and Chong will give a news conference next week.

Direct Japan-Inter-Korean Travel Considered

SK2109012790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0117 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (OANA-YONHAP)—South and North Korea may approve direct travel between their capitals exclusively for Japanese tourists toward end of this year as a prelude to inter-Korean travel, government sources said Friday. The proposed Tokyo-Seoul-Pyongyang sightseeing programs under consideration would be arranged by Lotte Tours of South Korea and a Japanese travel company that deals extensively with tour packages to North Korea, the sources said. Lotte and the Japanese agency, Chugae, are said to have concluded an agreement in June on tentative routes, which cross the border at the truce village of Panmunjom in the demilitarized zone dividing South and North Korea, according to the sources.

North Korea has said it is willing to accept South Koreans on tours organized by the Japanese travel company during the Beijing Asian Games, flying them from the Chinese capital to Pyongyang in chartered planes and then to Seoul via the truce village, they said. But North Korea was not planning to arrange family reunions during the period, they said.

Officials in Seoul approved the plan, but said it would have to wait until after the Asian games because there was not enough time to make the necessary preparations. They proposed instead starting with flights for foreigners as a prelude to South-North air travel, according to the sources.

Chugae plans to meet with travel authorities in both Seoul and Pyongyang to determine tour routes and work out accommodation arrangements.

The sources predicted cross-border travel for Japanese will start near the end of the year.

Pak Chol-on, Chong Tong-song Depart for Beijing

SK2109020190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0156 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (YONHAP)—Pak Chol-on, a former first state minister for political affairs, left for Beijing on Friday with Sports Minister Chong Tong-song to attend the Asian games. Pak told reporters it was a private trip but said he might contact high-level Chinese officials and North Koreans.

"There will be both official and unofficial chances, as during my trip to Vladivostok, to meet policy-makers from other Asian and Pacific nations," said Pak, a strong advocate of Seoul's northern policy.

Asked if he is carrying a personal letter of President No Tae-u, Pak said, "I am not in a position to comment on such a sensitive matter. It is improper to say so and so about that."

Pak is schedule to return on Oct. 1.

'Good Chance of' N-S Sports Talks Seen

SK2109091490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0716 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Beijing, Sept. 21 (YONHAP)—South Korean Sports Minister Chong Tong-song said Friday that there was a good chance of a meeting between inter-Korean sports heads as the two sides have ironed out many obstacles in secret talks. On arrival at Shoudu Airport in Northern Beijing, Chong said, "I came here to discuss inter-Korean sports exchanges with North Korea and the overall prospects are bright as many of the topics were covered through secret channels."

Chong said the outlook for the North's proposal for a joint cheering party for the Asiad was very good, but he would deal with the minor details of the issue discreetly with his North Korean counterpart.

"The possibility of reviving sports events between Seoul and Pyongyang, such as friendly soccer games, marathons and cycling, is also bright," Chong said.

He said he would meet with North Korean Sports Minister Kim Yu-sun Friday evening or Saturday morning at Beijing Hotel, where the two are staying.

He arrived at 10:35 aboard on a charter flight along with many South Korean sports, economic and political leaders, including Pak Chol-on, President No Tae-u's chief adviser on diplomatic affairs, Pak Se-chik, a former chairman of the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee, Chong Chu-yong, founder of the Hyundai Business Group, and Kim U-chug, chairman of the Daewoo Business Group.

North Korean Sports Minister and National Olympic chairman Kim Yu-sun arrived at another airport at 12:30 from Tokyo with 70 International Olympic Committee [IOC] members, including IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch.

Kim would only say, "Everything will be disclosed soon after the meeting."

Yi Chong-ok Not To Attend Asiad in Beijing

SK2009120790 Seoul YONHAP in English 1121 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Beijing, Sept. 20 (YONHAP)—More than 1,500 journalists who have flocked here to cover the 11th Asian games were welcomed by the host city in a reception at the People's Hall on the Tiananmen Square Thursday afternoon.

Beijing Mayor Chen Xitong, who concurrently is the chairman of the Beijing Asian Games Organizing Committee (BAGOC) and Executive Vice Mayor Zhang Baifa and other officials toasted to the success of the games along with the guest journalists. The journalists asked for the Chinese officials' autographs and were given them.

Yi Kil-song of NODONG SINMUN, organ of the North Korean ruling Workers (Communist) party, talked with South Korean journalists whom he got acquainted with during the inter-Korean high-level talks in Seoul on Sept. 5-6. Asked if North Korean Vice President Yi Chong-ok was coming here, he said, "As far as I know he isn't coming. There are some domestic events keeping him. Perhaps a lower-ranking official will come."

South Korean officials assigned here said they were worried about a series of Seoul-datelined news reports that Korean cheer groups would visit Pyongyang after the Beijing games and that South-north Korean soccer matches would take place in Pyongyang in mid-October.

"We don't think the Chinese Government will be happy if political significance of inter-Korean contacts overshadows the games," a Korean official said.

Meanwhile, foreign delegates to the games are experiencing inconveniences as electricity is supplied on a limited basis. All power sources except for the lamp light have been cut to prevent the use of electric appliances.

South Korean delegates seem to suffer most from the lack of electricity as they cannot cook snacks or can have special dishes prepared by their own cooks. Two South Korean cooks have come with the delegation to prepare special dishes for weightlifters, judoists, boxers and wrestlers.

Businessmen Attend Asiad Wearing 'Two Hats'

SK2109082390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0639 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Beijing, Sept. 21 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean businessmen and sports leaders, arriving in Beijing to support South Korean athletes in the Asian Games and look for business opportunities in the communist economy, are often the same people with two hats. They show up in their capacity as the presidents of sports federations, but are accompanied by seasoned experts in overseas investment and sales promotion.

On Thursday, Cho Chong-kun (president of the Korea Tennis Association and of Korean Air) turned up with Kim Sung-yon (president of the Korea Amateur Boxing Federation and chairman of the Korea Explosives Group) and Yi Sok-hui (president of the Korea Yacht Association and vice chairman of the Daewoo Business Group).

On Friday, Kim U-chung (president of the Soccer Association and chairman of the Daewoo Group), Yi Kun-hui (president of the Wrestling Association and chairman of the Samsung Group), Hyundai Group founder Chong Chu-yong and Yi Myong-pak (president of the Swimming Association and chairman of the Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co.) arrived.

Chong Mong-ku (chairman of Hyundai Precision & Ind. Co. and president of the Archery Association) and Kim Sang-ha (president of Korea Commerce and Industry and of the Basketball Association) will be here in a few days.

Kim U-chung plans to finalize feasibility studies on whether to invest in car assembly lines, hotels, textiles and electric motors in China.

Samsung owner Yi will seek to expand trade with China as well as study constructing an electric parts factory.

Cho of Korean Air will seek to establish a regular air route between Seoul and Beijing.

Korean sources in Beijing expect little to happen as the Korean and Chinese Governments have asked the visiting business leaders not to engage in activities other than sports lest they inflate anticipations for growth and development of Korea-China relations.

Seoul has no diplomatic ties with Beijing, but bilateral trade is rapidly increasing since the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games.

Government To Allow Musicians To Visit DPRK

SK2009130790 Seoul YONHAP in English 1231 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 20 (OANA-YONHAP)—The government will allow 14 musicians and three journalists, who have been invited by North Korea to a "pan-national" concert in Pyongyang, to visit North Korea, an official said Thursday. Emerging from the 10th inter-ministerial conference on inter-Korean exchanges, the official said the government would soon propose a liaison officers meeting to North Korea to discuss the safe travel and return of the musicians and journalists, their itinerary in North Korea and passage of the truce village of Panmunjom bordering the two Koreas.

North Korea on Wednesday sent invitations to Ewha Womans University Prof. Hwang Pyong-ki and 16 others to attend the concert to be held from Oct. 18-24, suggesting they come through the truce village of Panmunjom.

If realized, the concert will be the first musical event ever staged in either of the two Korean capitals, attended by musicians from both sides.

South To Decide on UN Entry After Talks

SK2109024190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0236 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will decide whether to apply for unilateral membership in the United Nations after the prime ministers of the two Koreas meet in Pyongyang on Oct. 16-19, a government official said Friday. In a strategy session on the talks chaired by Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, it was nearly agreed to withhold a decision on unilateral membership until after the talks, the official said.

The delay is part of an attempt by the government to create a favorable atmosphere for the second round of talks with a view to reaching a compromise on inter-Korean issues.

The session, attended by the foreign and defense ministers and the delegates to the talks, also discussed responses to proposals made by the North in the first round of talks early this month, including suspension of the "Team Spirit" South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise and release of those convicted of visiting the North without government permission, the official said.

South and North Korea on Tuesday discussed the U.N. issue under an agreement reached in the first round of the prime ministers' talks in Seoul, but failed to find common ground. The South says it will seek unilateral membership if the North refuses to enter the world body simultaneously, and the North contends the two parts of Korea should share a single seat.

The strategy session also reviewed recent North Korean moves, such as inviting South Korean musicians and journalists to a music festival in Pyongyang and an agreement on good-will soccer matches in Pyongyang and Seoul, the official said.

Pro-DPRK Body Members in Japan To Visit

SK2109090590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0828 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (YONHAP)—More than 800 members of Chochongnyon [General Association of Korean Residents in Japan], a pro-North Korean association in Japan, will visit South Korea on Sept. 24-26, the Foreign Ministry said Friday.

They will go on industrial and sightseeing tours before visiting their hometowns to pay respect to their ancestor's graves as done by Koreans at Chusok (Harvest Moon Festival). Some 50,000 Chochongnyon members have visited the South since 1975, when the home-visit program began.

Ex-TASS Reporter on Situation in North Korea

SK2009121890 Seoul KYONHYANG SINMUN in Korean 20 Sep 90 p 12

[Report on remarks by Aleksandr Zevin, former head of the TASS Pyongyang bureau, at a meeting at the Seoul Plaza Hotel in Seoul on 19 September—compiled by reporter Yi Tae-kun]

[Text] Reporter Aleksandr Zevin, 42, who headed the TASS office in Pyongyang, North Korea for 7 years and 3 months until recently, discussed his life in North Korea at a meeting at the Seoul Plaza Hotel in Seoul on the afternoon of 19 September.

He said that he came to Seoul to interview some scholars, but he was now obliged to be interviewed by an ROK audience. In reply to the questions posed by the participants, he talked about his life in Pyongyang in Russian, English, and Korean, mixing them together.

Reporter Zevin, who graduated from Moscow International Relations College majoring in the Korean language, replied to the question of why he had to leave Pyongyang on 8 May when the participants in the meeting asked him whether it was true—as foreign news media reported—that he was expelled from Pyongyang for writing an article critical of Kim Il-song, by stating that he had never written a report criticizing Kim Il-song nor that any North Korean official had expressed a complaint about his article.

Reporter Zevin said, "Articles carried by the North Korean media used to concentrate on praising economic successes, but now they sometimes write on the difficulties facing North Korea and write analytical articles as well as straight news reports," stressing that some depth has been added to the foreign media reports on North Korea.

Talking about foreign correspondents' activities in North Korea, he said, "As in any other country, North Korea has rules to be observed, and these rules are explained when a branch office of the foreign media is approved. I collected information and wrote articles according to these guidelines for foreign media. For 7 years of my stay in North Korea this guideline remained unchanged."

When the participants asked him whether he traveled in rural areas and whether there is a distinctive differences between life in urban and rural areas, he said, "Traveling in the rural areas is allowed with the approval of the authorities and with the issuance of a travel permit. There were instances where the application for the permit was rejected. The gap between the urban and rural areas seems to be greater in North Korea than in South Korea. Pyongyang has many trees, is well kept as a capital in terms of transportation, buildings, and services, and is beautiful, but this does not seem to be the case in rural areas."

When the participants asked questions about changes in North Korea, he said, "The change in the life in North Korea took place naturally, rather than by pressure or guidelines from the party. As the Soviet Union and East European countries did, North Korea is changing, too. People there do not enjoy—as much as they would like—things like an improving living standard, daily services, days off, and so forth, but the efforts to fill such desires and to improve services are continuing."

When the participants asked him what he thinks of the Korean saying that men are more handsome in the South and women are more beautiful in the North, he said, "Women when they are dressed up are all beautiful. Watching television and watching girls in the streets, I find many of them beautiful, so I cannot compare."

To the question of whether there is crime in North Korea, he said, "While I was in North Korea, I was never assaulted or robbed. But I heard that there is crime in North Korea. When we foreign reporters were talking with North Korean officials, they said that there is crime in the North as well."

Unified Germany To Wait on DPRK Relations

SK2109023790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (OANA-YONHAP)—Unified Germany will not set up diplomatic relations with North Korea for the time being, a South Korean Government official said Friday.

The official, requesting anonymity, said the West German Government had clarified its stance that the new Germany will not immediately establish formal ties with Pyongyang. "The South Korean Government has told West Germany through diplomatic channels that it does not oppose such relations, but we did ask them to take the same pace as other European community nations in approaching North Korea," he said.

Seoul also asked Bonn to mediate in urging North Korea to halt international terrorist activities and attempts to reunify Korea by force, to open inter-Korean talks and to take measures to ease tension on the Korean Peninsula, he said.

Unified Germany will allow foreign missions in East Germany, including that of North Korea, to stay for three months after the nation officially becomes one on Oct. 3, he said.

Choe Ho-chung on Relations With USSR, PRC

SK2009233090 Seoul Television Service in Korean 1200 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung by Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) anchorman Pak Song-pom on 19 September; place not given—recorded]

[Text] In a special interview given this afternoon to KBS's 2100 news program, Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung mentioned the prospect for talks between foreign ministers of the ROK and the USSR, as well as his contact with the Chinese foreign minister.

[Pak Song-pom] Good afternoon, Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung. You are scheduled to leave soon for the United Nations to attend its General Assembly session, are you not? At yesterday's contact between working delegates of the North and South at Panmunjom, the North Korean side put forward a concrete proposal for joint representation of the North and South at the United Nations with a single seat. What is your assessment of this?

[Choe Ho-chung] As expected, there was nothing new in the North Korean side's proposal yesterday. We gather it was an expression of the intent to frustrate our country's admission to the United Nations or delay it a little at any cost, just when a favorable atmosphere for our admission into the world body is being created in the international arena. Our side tried to convince the North Korean side of the illegal, unfeasible, and unreasonable nature of its proposal in view of the UN Charter. Pointing out such unjustness to North Korea is not enough, though. We consider it necessary to keep making efforts to convince North Korea of the legitimacy and feasibility of our call for simultaneous admission.

[Pak] You seem to consider the North Korean side's proposal as being unrealistic. Would you then try to seek our country's unilateral admission to the United Nations during the upcoming fall General Assembly session?

[Choe] Some people call our effort to seek membership in the United Nations "unilateral admission," but our government's consistent stand is that the North and

South should seek simultaneous admission to the United Nations. So, the so-called unilateral admission would be a result of North Korea's refusal to seek membership in the United Nations, not something that we have sought enthusiastically.

Since our entry into the United Nations is possible only when none of the permanent member states of the UN Security Council objects to it, we will try to further our talks with the Soviet Union and China and push ahead with our plan when we are convinced that these two countries will not exercise their veto against our entry.

[Pak] According to news reports, you are to meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze on 26 September in New York. Although the governments of the two countries have not yet formally confirmed it, Soviet state-run radio reported that an agreement on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the ROK and the USSR will be made public at ROK-USSR foreign ministers' talks scheduled for 26 September. The Soviet defense minister is also reported to have said something to that effect, corroborating the reports. What do you think about these reports as such?

[Choe] In an earlier interview with KBS months ago, I said I would like to hold talks with foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and China. My call for talks between foreign ministers of the ROK and the USSR is about to be realized, and my mind is full of emotions. Many reports say that it would take place on 26 September and the director of our Consular Department in the Soviet Union is consulting with the Soviet Foreign Ministry. I am not sure whether it will be exactly on 26 September or not, but I can say that talks are certain. If these talks are held, I plan to do my best to make these talks successful by discussing a wide range of issues such as the establishment of diplomatic relations between our country and the Soviet Union, which is our goal, and ways of expanding economic cooperation between the two countries.

[Pak] If the question of establishing diplomatic relations is satisfactorily resolved in your talks with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, do you plan to discuss in detail the issue concerning a visit of our head of state to the Soviet Union?

[Choe] Since presidents of our two countries agreed to meet often in the future during their historic summit meeting in San Francisco last June, I believe that a visit by our head of state to the Soviet Union will be easily arranged when diplomatic relations between the two countries are established. However, since such things need to be agreed upon between the two countries through diplomatic channels, it is not appropriate to say when it will be and which side's head of state will visit the other country first.

[Pak] I heard that foreign ministers from Asia and the Pacific region participating in the UN General Assembly session are scheduled to hold a meeting on 27 September. I think that you can meet Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen without formalities. To what degree can we hope for progress on the issue of establishing diplomatic relations between Korea and China?

[Choe] As I said before now, in my interview with KBS months ago I mentioned my desire to meet with both Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers. How wonderful would it be if our country can establish diplomatic relations with China following the normalization of our ties with the Soviet Union? Reality, however, is that no concrete negotiations have been conducted with China.

On 27 September, foreign ministers of the Asian countries are going to have a dinner under the sponsorship of the Japanese and Indonesian foreign ministers. If Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen attends, there would be an opportunity to exchange greetings with him quite naturally.

As you may know, in a conference of the ministers of the Asian and Pacific countries held in Singapore toward the end of last July, it was agreed to invite China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong to participate in the next conference to be held in Seoul next year. With our country being the chairman of the conference, I believe that we can discuss with China such matters without ceremony. Nevertheless, I think there are mountains and rivers to cross before we reach the point of establishing diplomatic relations between Korea and China. Even so, I believe that Korea and China will be able to develop their bilateral relations by taking advantage of the Asian Games amid a more favorable atmosphere. Based on this, we will, without hurrying, make a sustained effort to hasten the establishment of diplomatic relations with China through closer consultations between the two countries.

[Pak] Since you are going to meet foreign ministers of many countries, can I guess that you might as well propose a tete-a-tete with the Chinese foreign minister depending on the circumstances?

[Choe] As we have already expressed our willingness to have a tete-a-tete with him, I think it is about time for the Chinese side to react to it. I will try to exchange views with him in the more amicable atmosphere of the dinner meeting.

[Pak] Mr. Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung, thank you for being with us. This interview was taped this afternoon.

Patent Agreement Signed With Soviet Union

SK2009121590 Seoul YONHAP in English 1210 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union signed an agreement on patents and other industrial property rights in Moscow Thursday, the Korea Industrial Property Office (KIPO) announced.

The first inter-governmental agreement between the two countries which do not hold diplomatic relations will facilitate bilateral cooperation in the fields of physics, space science, electronics, and machine, metal and chemical engineering, KIPO officials said.

KIPO Commissioner Kim Chol-su is currently visiting Moscow.

South Korea and the Soviet Union have earlier initialled trade and aviation agreements.

Czechoslovakia Initials Aviation Agreement

SK2009114990 Seoul YONHAP in English 1136 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Czechoslovakia initialled an aviation agreement in Prague Wednesday, the Korean Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

The two countries established diplomatic relations on March 22 and have earlier signed an agreement on trade and economic cooperation.

South Korea has already signed aviation agreement with three other Eastern European countries—Hungary, Poland and the Soviet Union.

Canadian Secretary Clark Ends Visit to Seoul

SK2109005590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 21 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark said his country has proposed dialogue on security in the North Pacific to bring an end to the Cold War in Asia and the Pacific region.

At a news conference winding up his two-day Seoul visit, Clark said it is ironic that the Cold War which started in Europe still exists in Asia after it disappeared in Europe.

"We all recognize that part of the success in bringing security and stability to Europe is attributed to the existence of a framework for discussion of security questions there," he said.

The secretary, who was Canada's prime minister in 1979 and 1980, said his proposal was aimed at inducing informal discussions among the North Pacific countries to "see what ground can be established for setting up a similar framework in the region."

For this purpose, the Canadian government is using a two-track approach. It is organizing preliminary meetings of academics and representatives of private institutions in the field.

At the same time, he said, Canadian officials are having contacts with officials of related countries for exploratory talks on that matter. A group of officials will visit Asian countries including Japan and Korea during the next two or three months.

But what they have in mind at the moment is not forming a concrete entity though the framework, once established, is hoped to develop into an organization in the future, Clark said.

He noted that the recent Soviet move to form a regional security system is not irrelevant to the Canadian proposal. "The Soviet proposal is interesting but obviously, more details need to come," he said.

Touching on bilateral relations with Korea, Clark said his government fully supports the ongoing inter-Korean dialogue and south Korea's U.N. membership.

He also said he told Korean officials he met in Seoul including Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung and Trade and Industry Minister Pak Pil-su of the difficulty Canadian agricultural products have entering the Korean market.

"I understand the internal problems of Korea and Koreans understand problems in Canada," he said, adding that hard choices, anyhow, have to be made especially in the fields of agriculture and textiles.

Secretary Clark arrived in Seoul Wednesday for a two-day official visit. While in Seoul, he met business and government leaders of Korea and discussed ways of promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields. He also paid a courtesy call on President No Tae-u.

The secretary left Seoul yesterday.

Defense Ministry To Inaugurate New Headquarters

SK2109015990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0152 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (YONHAP)—South Korea's new Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) headquarters, to be inaugurated on Oct. 1, will have command over three combined units and 10 major operational units, in sharp contrast to the nominal role played by the old joint chiefs, the defense ministry said Thursday. The new command structure will also control four joint and combined military training exercises, including the annual "Team Spirit" Korea-U.S. military drill, and anti-guerilla warfare operations, a ministry spokesman said.

The military units over which the JCS headquarters will have operational command were approved by the cabinet Thursday in accordance with the revised armed forces organization act, which was passed by the National Assembly in July, he said. The units include the Joint Military Intelligence Command, the first, second and third armies, the naval and air force commands and the marine corps.

Four-Star Army General Chong Ho-kun was named chairman of the joint chiefs and there are three deputy joint chiefs, four headquarters, 11 departments and five auxiliary rooms. The ministry will assign some 300 field officers to the JCS headquarters by the end of the year and generals assigned to the old joint chiefs will be given pertinent command posts under the new structure, he said.

Students Demonstrate Against DLP, Government

SK2009133890 Seoul YONHAP in English 1258 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 20 (YONHAP)—A few thousand South Korean college students demonstrated against President No Tae-u's government across the country Thursday, many of them taking to streets in defiance of tear-gas firing police.

In Seoul, over 1,000 students from Seoul National and Korea Universities and some 30 other institutes of higher learning gathered on the campus of Konguk University at 3 P.M. and resolved that they would stop No's Democratic Liberal Party's [DLP's] move to revise the constitution for parliamentary government system, while searching for disbandment of the incumbent National Assembly where the DLP occupies 218 out of the 299 seats.

After the campus rally, the students took to the streets hurling molotov cocktails to tear gas firing police. Collegians of a dozen universities and colleges in the second largest city of Pusan also staged anti-DLP demonstrations in and outside their campuses Thursday afternoon, answering police's tear gas with incendiary bottles and stones.

In Kwangju, a city well-known for the 1980 citizens uprising, more than 3,000 collegians clashed into police on the streets after anti-DLP rallies on campuses. In other parts of South Cholla Province adjacent to Kwangju, hundreds of college students staged anti-DLP demonstrations on campuses.

* Kim Yong-sam 'Driven Into a Corner'

902C0271 Seoul ILYO SINMUN in Korean 8 Jul 90 p 5

[Article by Pak Tae-hui]

[Text] Kim Yong-sam, chairman of the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] supreme committee, has been driven into a corner due to the pincers launched by Pak Chol-on and Kim Chong-pil. His RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] faction is in agony because, unlike in the last scramble for power, ex-Minister of State Pak Chol-on this time has not come to the fore but is staying behind the scenes managing operations carefully prepared to bring down YS [Kim Yong-sam]. This makes it all the more difficult for the faction to deal with.

The RDP faction, seeing the two recent subtle trends as signalling the start of full-scale anti-YS operations, keeps a close eye on developments.

The first trend is a serious push by CP [Kim Chong-pil] for the constitutional amendment for shifting to a cabinet system. Despite the fact that President No has openly stated at every opportunity that inasmuch as stability is the top-priority goal for this year, a constitutional amendment debate is premature, Kim Yong-chae—lawmaker regarded as the right-arm man of Kim Chong-pil, member of the DLP supreme committee—stressed the need for the amendment in the first-day interpellation of the 150th National Assembly extraordinary session on 25 June. He held that shifting to a cabinet system through an early amendment of the constitution is required to do away with provincialism and prepare for North-South reunification.

The RDP faction, naturally dumbfounded at the Kim Yong-chae speech, immediately held an emergency meeting and attempted to have Kim Tok-yong—YS's key staff member and a designated interpellator for the afternoon session that day—launch a head-on counterattack and point out that the proposed amendment is premature. However, the counterattack plan was shelved by YS, who said it is scandalous. Instead, to calm his close aides, YS promised to issue an open statement soon and formally express in it his opposition to the amendment. YS's promised counterattack came earlier than first anticipated.

President No Tae-u, at a meeting with Blue House reporters on 28 June, immediately before the third anniversary of his 29 June [1987] announcement of presidential election platform, commented on the constitutional amendment issue. Among other things he said that although he remains unchanged in his belief that an amendment within this year is premature, there has been no change either in the fact that he personally prefers the cabinet system to the presidential system. Of late, the constitutional amendment for a cabinet system has become a formal political issue, he noted, adding that however, it is the political sphere's business and he has no intention of being a part of it. The president's remark was clearly meant for tolerating the amendment debate.

The next day, however, Chairman Kim Yong-sam came forward to make clear his position against the amendment, using President No's comment the previous day and giving it a self-seeking interpretation. He maintained that the president "meant to abandon the amendment plan." Taking up the passage from the president's comment that he will follow the will of the people over the issue, YS said that "a constitutional amendment requires the support of 70 to 80 percent of the people to be approved but currently only 30 percent of them support the proposed amendment." "The president is aware of this situation more than anybody else," he continued, "and yet he said that he would respect the national consensus. This virtually means that he has abandoned the amendment plan."

Self-Seeking Remark on Cabinet System

With regard to this controversial remark by YS, the DJP [Democratic Justice Party] and NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party] factions made no open rebuttals. The reason was that the chances were high that they would be playing into YS's hands and be put on the defensive should they make one. Behind the scenes, however, they, particularly the NDRP faction, promptly unleashed fierce counterattacks.

Particularly spectacular was the activity of DLP Policy Board Chairman Kim Yong-hwan, who at the time of the three-party merger represented the NDRP in working-level sessions. He met reporters, each separately, and volunteered inside stories of the merger. He said: "The precondition of the three-party merger was the constitutional amendment for the cabinet system. The three persons—No Tae-u, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil—unanimously agreed to it. They signed three sets of the written agreement and each kept a set. Now, Chairman Kim Yong-sam has gone back on his promise and is showing a subtle shifting in his behavior with his eye on the presidency under the presidential system." Evidently, it was a stinging reproach.

The RDP faction, however, refrained from directly refuting the Kim Yong- hwan comment, because they feared that the refutation, if made, would likely escalate into a full war between Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil.

Nevertheless, the RDP faction's core elements think that a YS-CP showdown is inevitable. It is because they concluded from the recent moves of CP and his NDRP faction that on behalf of the Blue House, which is reluctant to get into a direct showdown with YS, CP voluntarily took on that role.

Kim Chong-pil, DLP supreme committee member, in an earlier comment to reporters in May in his party office, said that "he should not push his luck too much or he could find a disaster for himself" and that "there would come Round 2 or even Round 3." Recalling that comment of CP's, a personage of the RDP faction fumed and said that he now clearly realized what CP really meant by those words. He maintained that by "luck" CP apparently meant the case of Pak Chol-on, a man of a relatively short history of political management, who was pushed out after attempting a showdown with Chairman Kim Yong-sam, that the "disaster" implied the shrewd CP himself.

Self-Appointed Leader of Second Political Realignment

The same personage also explained that by saying that there would be Round 2 and even Round 3, CP meant that the time is drawing near when a bloody battle will become inevitable over the constitutional amendment issue and that he himself will take care of that battle.

YS's close aides agree that the perception of this RDP faction personage always represents YS's perception of the situation. According to them, YS holds the same view—namely, that the Blue House gave the assignment of pushing the amendment plan to the NDRP faction, ignoring the RDP faction, and CP himself willingly took on the role, that they thus began undermining YS's position. This means that the current development is exactly what YS had feared most.

At the same time, separate from this development, it has been known that YS has lately been under a second challenge from another political foe, invisible this time, and is feeling a sense of crisis. The foe is none other than Pak Chol-on, former minister of state.

The RDP faction is currently unable to conceal its embarrassment at the alleged involvement of Kim Yong-sam's close aides in scandals surrounding the preferential sale of a piece of land in the Yongdungpo downtown area to Lotte Department Store and the land reclassification case in the Lotte Chamsil hotel project—cases which sparked controversies recently. They are of course worried that the allegations could cause fatal damage to YS's political morality. Not only that but it already dealt a heavy blow to the Lotte Group, which is known to be YS's biggest financial supporter.

According to investigations so far, those who are known involved directly or indirectly in the Yongdungpo land sale scandal are six lawmakers from the PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy], three from the RDP faction in the DLP, one from the NDRP faction, and another lawmaker who had been a member of the RDP faction until he joined the Democratic Party [DP] when it was founded. In short, four lawmakers who were under YS's responsibility last year are involved.

Also, Assemblyman K-so-and-so, chief secretary of Chairman Kim Yong-sam, is under suspicion of misfeasance for assisting the land reclassification process in connection with the published Lotte plan to build a 100-story hotel in Chamsil and receiving 650 million won in honorarium. In addition, it is widely rumored in political quarters that Assemblyman H-so-and-so, known as Chairman Kim Yong-sam's brain, and a different H-so-and-so, also member of the National Assembly, are under a secret inquiry by authorities for suspicion of involvement in an undisclosed irregularity case. All this means that the so-called YS's aides became, all at the same time, targets of the special inspection team recently activated by the Blue House.

This unexpected situation naturally plunged the RDP faction into an extraordinary state of emergency because the faction ostensibly attaches greater importance to cleanness and morality. The reason is that the slightest slip on its part would very likely trigger the danger for the faction to collapse even before it comes to find an opportunity to have a decent race for the presidency.

Pledge of Contribution to Welfare Fund

The sense of crisis being felt by the RDP faction is especially serious because all these allegations from an invisible source implicate the Lotte Group known to be the largest source of political funds for YS.

According to reports, a relatively specific outline of YS's political fund sources was unveiled at the time of the last power struggle between him and Pak Chol-on.

At the time, secret inquiries by Pak Chol-on's intelligence team discovered that those sources are the Lucky-Goldstar and Hanjin groups as well as Lotte. At the time, YS obtained documents indisputably proving Pak Chol-on's secret investigative activities against him and used them in his face-to-face talk with President No. Consequently, YS's political fund sources suffered no serious damage.

Unfortunately, however, these conglomerates were black-listed by the Blue House inspection team under the 8 May Real Estates Special Measure. In Lucky-Goldstar's case, it sensed the authorities' subtle move in time and did everything it could to show its good faith. Among other things, it released a top-grade piece of land in Yongdong. It was the only business group to go that far. In addition, Lucky-Goldstar pledged a contribution of 3 billion won to public welfare funds every year. The reluctant pledge perhaps was prompted by a judgment that it had not done enough yet to be safe. The situation was just as bad with the Hanjin Group, with speculations rife in financial communities that it would be one of the first to fall should the government announce some kind of special crackdown.

It is none other than the Lotte Group, however, that is subjected to the severest ordeal. Lotte and YS maintain a distinctly close relationship. They are so close that an in-law of YS, who has been aiding YS indirectly, was recently appointed president of a Lotte subsidiary. It might just be a coincidence but Lotte now finds itself under concentrated fire with no let-up. Lately, land it owns in Chamsil became a problem and Lotte was fined a penalty tax to the tune of 200 billion won. This time, its construction project in Yongdungpo has become a problem; furthermore, there are signs of its 100-story hotel project in Chamsil also coming under fire.

Such being the situation, the RDP faction naturally is nervous. However, inasmuch as the government's inspection measure was put in place under the clear-cut policy to crack down on conglomerates' speculative activities involving real estates, the RDP faction finds it difficult to officially complain about a so-called undercover political operation and to wage a full war against it as it did in the last power scramble with Pak Chol-on. This leaves the faction agonizing.

The RDP faction is convinced that this act of undermining as seen in the series of events is progressing under the initiative of ex-Minister of State Pak Chol-on and with the Blue House's approval. The faction has firmed the belief after it confirmed the fact that behind the allegations of irregularities against politicians such as in the Yongdungpo land sale case, and behind an alleged list of those politicians currently circulating in political quarters, is a certain high-ranking party executive of the DJP faction.

This ranking party executive has been pushing for an early constitutional amendment for cabinet system and it has been well known that he and Pak Chol-on are in close relationship.

All Opponents of Early Amendment Targeted

At the same time, the RDP faction has a strong suspicion against Pak Chol-on for the fact that he, of all the politicians today, maintains the most elaborate network of information.

Also, one of the reasons the RDP faction suspects that Pak Chol-on has been leading the series of events with the approval of the Blue House is the fact that among those rumored to be involved in irregularity cases are a number of influential SK figures (graduates of Seoul and Kyonggi high schools) as well as the RDP-faction and PPD personalities.

Also in connection with other instances of massive real estate speculations than the Yongdungpo case, lawmakers would often become subjects of gossip in political quarters these days. Included among them are two SK leaders—the first being a third-term lawmaker allegedly accused in the National Taxation Office investigation in April of having bought 50,000 pyong of land in Onyang and 20,000 pyong in Cheju for speculative purposes, and the second, also a member of the National Assembly, allegedly holding vast land in the Paju area for similar purposes, etc. etc.

Recent rumors also have it that another SK figure, Assemblyman C-so-and-so, received 500 million won as a commission for helping a business group obtain a permit for opening a golf course. Finally, a megaton-class rumor began circulating about a certain senior statesman, who served as National Assembly speaker in the past, alleging that he is also under suspicion of real estate speculation.

The RDP faction is convinced that all these fatal attacks on SK leaders were undertaken as part of an attempt to apply pressure on forces that have been uncooperative with TK [Taegu and Kyongbuk or North Kyongsang Province forces]. In short, the faction's conclusion is that the recent rumors of irregularity are made and spread under careful plans to keep SK forces in the RDP faction in check, bring down the RDP faction and, at the same time, to pull the PPD all the way as the partner-designate by all means.

Based on this conclusion, the RDP faction is naturally working on countermeasures in a hurry, feeling it would very likely be exposed to a disaster should it remain idle. Kim Yong-sam and other faction leaders are successively holding emergency meetings these days to prepare countermeasures expeditiously. According to a source, YS plans to visit the Blue House shortly and try to settle the matter in a tete-a-tete with President No. Apparently, he is seeking a settlement through a direct bargain with the president. Political circles, however, express skepticism as to how effective such tactics will be for YS to attain his purpose. The reason is that the foe is not there for him to see but hiding in the dark yonder.

*Taedok Science Complex To Play 'Central Role'

902C0270 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 10 Jul 90 p 12

[By reporter Yun Tok-no]

[Text] The Taedok science complex will be completed by 1992 and Taedok will emerge as the mecca of the nation's science and technology [S&T] development while serving as the center of industry-university joint research and a base of international joint research programs, according to government plans.

A total of some 800 billion won will be spent over the 1990-92 period and, when the project is completed, more than 50 research institutes including government-financed and private industrial ones will move in. Taedok will thus come to play the central role in S&T development, symbolically and practically, through industry-university research cooperation.

The government will see that the Taedok science complex grows to be a mecca of overall S&T development based on industry-university research cooperation. At the same time, it has decided to develop an industry-university joint research and development [R&D] system led by government-financed institutes, and push developments of 10 key high-tech products such as high-definition television to meet short-term and medium-, long-term technological demands.

This disclosure came in a report by S&T Minister Chong Kun-mo at the first expanded S&T promotion conference, held on 10 July in Taedok with President No Tae-u presiding, dealing with plans on completing the Taedok science complex, pushing developments of 10 key high-tech products under the industry-university joint development system and fostering 100 basic research groups.

The government, first of all, plans to complete the Taedok science complex by December 1992, the 20th year of the project, and to that end a total of 801.8 billion won will be spent—183.1 billion won by the government and 618.7 billion won by private industries.

When completed, 15 government-financed research institutes, 27 private industry institutes including the Lucky-Goldstar and Samsung Group general research institutes, and government and government-subsidized agencies such as the international patent training institute will move in. Taedok will thus become a center of industry-university tie-ups to come.

Under the government plan, a Taedok science and culture center will be built and satellite research counties created where intensive research-type venture industries are expected to play the leading role. Through these developments, the Taedok science complex will assume the pivotal role in the nation's S&T development. The plan also calls for developing the Taedok science complex into a central stage of international S&T development.

Along with the completion of the Taedok science complex as a symbolic and practical S&T center, the government will develop industry-university research cooperation as a key to economic developments. In the future, it will, on the basis of state-run R&D programs assigned to government-financed institutes, promote development of key high technologies in the light of short-term and medium-, long-term industrial demands and technological forecasts and work for maximizing their pervasive effects to industries.

At the same time, the government has decided to push state-run developments of 10 major strategic high technologies based on new theories such as optical technology and technologies for high-definition television, third-generation antibiotics, G-4 facsimiles and artificial intelligence-type computers. It will thus promote technological developments for products that have the competitive edge in the world markets.

With a view to resolving the realistic economic difficulties being experienced by enterprises such as manpower shortages and the lack of sufficient information on advanced technologies, the government plans to expand the joint utilization with universities and industries of superior research personnel, advanced high-tech research facilities and technological information currently in the possession of government-run institutes as well as know-how and experience it has accumulated.

Especially, the government plans to open master's courses in the Hungnung campus of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology in 1991 to train high technology specialists needed by industries. At the same time, it will establish a technological information network through which to provide enterprises with information they need.

Along with this expansion of industrial and application technologies, the government will endeavor to revitalize basic research. To that end, it plans to increase the present 13 superior research centers to 30 in 1990, and to 100 by the year 2001 and give them intensive government support.

The key points in discussions at the S&T promotion conference are, in short, that the government will henceforth put policy emphasis on S&T development and, as a means to implement it, on improving industries' technological competitiveness and expanding technological innovations through industry-university research tie-ups.

Kim Chae-kyom, president of the Industrial Technology Association, in his key note address at the conference touched on ways and means to implement industry-university research cooperation, asking the government to "beef up incentive and support systems for investments to promote technological developments and extend support to the training and securing of industrial technological manpower."

Son Pyong-ki, Kyongbuk University professor, on behalf of the scientific world stressed the need for "expanded support to be extended to superior research centers and for increased investments in education including those for the upgrading of educational supplies such as laboratory facilities." Meanwhile, Yi Chung-hui, director of the Korea Standards Institute, in his address advised that "what is needed is the creation of appropriate research conditions to attract high-level brains and a drastic expansion of government-run R&D activities."

Colombians, Koreans Arrested for Drug Smuggling

SK2109075890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0609 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (YONHAP)—South Korean prosecutors arrested two Colombians and nine Koreans Friday on charges of smuggling cocaine and emeralds into the country, in what they say is the first major drug bust involving cocaine in Korea, a prosecution spokesman said.

He said Sabara Darwin, 22, a Colombian national, and five South Koreans, including Yun Kyong-su, 23, were charged with illegally bringing 976 grams of cocaine worth 1.5 billion won (210 million U.S. dollars) into South Korea early this month and selling some of the drug. The prosecution seized 976 grams of cocaine and 39 emeralds.

He said a Colombian woman known as Custodia, 54, and four other South Koreans, including O Sung-chu, 29, are charged with smuggling 39 emeralds of 61 carats worth 300 million won into Korea early this month. They were rounded up while seeking buyers on the black market, according to the spokesman.

Colombians Alberto Lopez, 26, and Luz Maria, 33, who is living in Taiwan, are wanted on the same charges, the spokesman said.

More Arrests for Smuggling Gems

SK2109092190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0910 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 21 (YONHAP)—South Korean prosecutors arrested a Colombian woman and a Korean man Friday on charges of smuggling in hundreds of million won worth of emeralds hours after they took into custody two Colombians and nine Koreans suspected of illegally importing cocaine and the precious stone into the country.

The additional arrests are Marilu, Huertas Mancipe, 45, who flew into Seoul on a Korean Air early Friday morning and has been staying at a downtown hotel, and Sin Hyong-sik, 34, a resident of Koyang County, just outside Seoul.

The prosecution seized 132 emeralds (714,300 U.S. dollars) from Marilu and 29 emeralds (100,000 dollars) from Sin. The prosecution confiscated 39 emeralds earlier in the day from what it said is the first major drug bust involving cocaine in Korea.

A spokesman for the prosecution said investigation was focused on possible conspiracy between the suspected smuggler and the customs officers, as the Colombian woman passed customs without a problem even though she was carrying the large amount of gem.

The prosecution arrested two Colombians and nine Koreans earlier in the day on charges of smuggling cocaine and emeralds into the country.

Burma

Muslims Urge Opposition to Military Regime

BK1609015490 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] The Muslim Liberation Organisation of Burma (MLO) has urged all Muslims and other Burmese to join in fighting the military dictatorship in Rangoon, which they said is oppressing Muslim people.

MLO chairman Col [Colonel] Kyaw Hla said the Saw Maung military regime has oppressed Muslims and the MLO is issuing the statement to encourage people to help one another topple the regime. Kyaw Hla said his group strongly denounced the Burmese military junta for quoting some verses from the holy Koran and broadcasting them on Radio Rangoon on September 9. Gen [General] Saw Maung quoted some verses of Koran saying Muslims should not do anything against the ruling government. Col Kyaw Hla said all the quotes were out of context.

"We can do anything against an unjust government like the Saw Maung regime. Gen Saw Maung is neither a Muslim nor does he understand the essence of the holy Koran. He is a brutal military dictator," Kyaw Hla said. "We strongly object to his application of the holy verses for political profit. His intention is to kill more civilians and hang on to power."

Kyaw Hla said the message of Allah is to urge oppressed people to revolt and overthrow repressive and nasty rulers who deny them their freedom of religion, politics, economics and civil rights.

The MLO, whose headquarters is in the border area near Mae Hong Son Province, is one of the ethnic rebel organisations in Burma. It claimed that in 1978, under the pretext of a national census, hundreds of Muslims were killed and Muslim women were raped by Rangoon's King Dragon military operation. More than 200,000 Burmese Muslims fled to Bangladesh, Kyaw Hla claimed. Between 1982 and 1983, in Tennasserim Division and Karen state, a large number of Muslims were killed and 20 mosques were desecrated and destroyed, he said.

Registration of People's Power Party Annulled

BK1909161190 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Announcement No. 899 by the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar; dated 19 September 1990]

[Text] Subject: Annulment of Registration of the People's Power Party, PPP, as a political party.

1. The Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] announced that the People's Power Party, PPP, which has its headquarters at Compound No. 7, 2d Aung Sitthi Street, East Gyogon, Insein Township, Yangon [Rangoon] Division, was permitted registration as a political party by the commission in accordance with Article 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law on 1 November 1988. This was stated in Announcement No. 77 issued on that day.

2. However, since the commission has now received a request from the party's Central Executive Committee that unanimously seeks an annulment of the registration of that party, it hereby announces the annulment of the registration of the PPP to take effect from 19 September 1990.

By the authority vested in me
Signed: Aye Maung, secretary

Narcotics Squad Seizes Heroin, Opium in Lashio

BK1909161790 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Special narcotics squads have been carrying out drug suppression work under Project "Ye Min Aung Phase 5" since the project was launched by the Myanmar [Burma] Narcotics Control Board on 1 July 1990.

Accordingly, at 0500 on 16 July, a special narcotics squad from Lashio stopped and searched a Hilux car with registration plate Hta-Sin-du/76115, driven by Aik Maung, and which was traveling from Ho-pang to Lashio. The search uncovered 14.205 kilograms of heroin hidden in 125 pieces of fluorescent lights belonging to U Lao Pa, son of U Chansue of Ho-long ward in Kunlong. The value of the heroin is worth over 4.2 million kyat. The No. 2 Lashio Police Station has taken legal action against U Lao Pa under Article Pa-304/90 and under Articles 6A, 6B, 7A, 7B, 10B, and 14D of the 1974 Narcotic Drugs Law.

Between 1 July and 16 September, the Lashio Special Narcotics Squad has seized 28 packages of heroin, weighing 28.5349 kilograms, and also netted 22.2172 kilograms of raw opium in 19 opium cases. Legal action was taken against five drug users for failing to register. The squad also seized four jade lots and 42 jade bracelets—weighing 1.77 viss [1 viss equals 3.65 pounds] involving four cases.

A total of 72 people were arrested in the above cases, and the value of narcotics seized was more than 10 million kyat.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Paper Views Implementation of National Policies

BK2009141390 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Sep 90 p 14

[Editorial: "Fairness in Policy Implementation"]

[Text] It is a sad commentary on the state of the nation that after 33 years of independence Government policies should still be viewed with racial suspicions. And it is sadder still to see national leaders, as Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed did on Monday, still reiterating the indisputable fact that national policies have been, and are, formulated, for the betterment of all communities of this multi-racial, multi-lingual and multi-cultural nation.

Formulation of national policies for a multi-racial society is never an easy task. More so the implementation of these policies. Consider for instance the NEP [New Economic Policy]. This has been a unique exercise in social engineering, not attempted elsewhere in the world. It had to enjoin, as one, two conflicting objectives, that of generating economic growth and of redistributing this engendered wealth to eradicate poverty. Formulation of this policy in itself was a major feat. Even more difficult was the implementation of this grand design to ensure benefits percolated to all. Only a liberal implementation can, and did, ensure fairness to all.

But by definition a liberal implementation of a socioeconomic policy in a multi-racial society has inherent limitations. It, for one, cannot satisfy all, as evident in the dissatisfaction expressed by all communities, including the Bumiputera [indigenous group]. If the policy had been carried out to the satisfaction of one community then it would have been rightly branded racial. Moreover, such a situation would not have exactly contributed to national stability. It would have created animosity among those left out. The consequent tension would not have promoted economic growth. For these specific reasons the Government had to be liberal when it came to the implementation of the NEP.

This is clear from the record of this Government which shows, as the Premier said, it has not been too unfair to anyone. At the same time, neither has it been too kind to one group. The consequence is a measure of dissatisfaction among all. Which in the final analysis is testimony that implementation of the NEP has been, so far, fair to all.

For the moment the dissatisfaction with the national economic policy, shorn of all the arguments, is really about the quantum of benefits. Everyone wants more than they have so far received. But a larger share means the cake must be larger. This is where all must have faith in national efforts to generate more wealth. The country, as Dr Mahathir pointed out, has a high potential for further economic growth. Continued stability will ensure continued growth, and a continuation of the redistribution of wealth to all which only a liberal implementation of policies can ensure.

The liberal hand that has guided, and still guides, the NEP is also manifest in all other facets of Malaysian life. The most tangible evidence is in education where the Government aids national-type primary schools to enable the young of the major ethnic groups to learn their different mother tongues. This commitment to allocate annual funds as well as to train a steady supply of teachers for these schools has been made by the Government despite the greater need for the promotion of a single national language understood by all. Morover, the continuing support for the different medium schools in turn fosters the continued presence of the different cultures that make up this multiracial nation—a consequence for which, because it is intangible, few critics give the Government credit.

Then there is the tolerance of worship of the diverse religions. Few can say there are obstacles to the free pursuit of any religious belief in the country.

These, to be sure, are not reasons for anyone to have any mistrust or suspicion of Government policies. On the contrary they ae clear indicators that the Government heeds the interest of all communities of the country in the formulation and implementation of national policies.

Singapore

Second Deputy Prime Minister Calls on Li Peng

BK2009150090 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] The second deputy prime minister, Mr. Ong Teng Cheong, who is visiting China, has called on the prime minister and Mrs. Li Peng. Mr. Li Peng said the imminent setting up of diplomatic relations between China and Singapore will open a new chapter in bilateral ties. Mr. Ong also called on the communist party leader, Mr. Jiang Zemin. Mr. Ong, who is secretary general of the NTUC, [National Trade Unions Congress], is leading a [words indistinct] delegation to China.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Offers Deal on SNC Chairmanship

BK2109074090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0728 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Bangkok, Sept 21 (AFP)—Guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Friday he accepted an expansion of Phnom Penh's representation within an interim authority of Cambodia's warring factions in exchange for being elected authority chairman.

The authority, the Supreme National Council (SNC), was formed last week with 12 members, six each for Phnom Penh and a guerrilla coalition headed by the prince, who is not a member.

In a statement issued by his office here, the prince, Cambodia's former monarch, said he accepted the appointment by Phnom Penh of a seventh member "if Norodom Sihanouk ... is eventually elected president."

Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen's rejection of the prince being chairman as a 13th member of the SNC led to the collapse of talks here Wednesday. But Mr. Hun Sen, insisting that Phnom Penh and the guerrillas hold equal representation, proposed that the council be expanded to 14 members, seven for each side.

This was initially refused by the Beijing-backed Marxist Khmer Rouge and its allies in non-communist factions loyal to Prince Sihanouk and ex-Prime Minister Son Sann. But the prince said Friday that "in order to demonstrate to the United Nations and the world that the national Cambodian resistance is full of good will and fully committed to the ideals of peace and national reconciliation" he was asking the other factions to accept an expansion of the SNC.

Son Sann Proposes Further Meetings of SNC

BK2109071690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], proposed yesterday, Thursday [20 September], further meetings of the SNC at the Cambodian embasssies in Bangkok or in Paris.

In an interview with the Voice of the Khmer radio, His Excellency Son Sann appealed to Cambodians in all parties to agree among themselves quickly to alleviate the Cambodian people's suffering. His Excellency Son Sann said the meeting in Bangkok was not a failure in the process to find peace for Cambodia. His Excellency Son Sann also took part in the SNC meeting, which was held from Monday to Wednesday.

Before the Bangkok meeting, His Excellency Son Sann was in Paris to hold talks with ministers of European countries to get the latter to assist and have a clear understanding of the Cambodian problem, which is between Vietnam and Cambodia. Recently, European Parliament officials proposed that the Paris international conference be convened quickly.

Khieu Samphan Urges Convening Paris Conference

BK2109031890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] At the end of the meeting in Bangkok on 19 September, His Excellency Khieu Samphan said in a news conference that the Paris International Conference on Cambodia should be quickly reconvened to work out details of the document of the UN Security Council's five permanent members and their implementation, set up the UN transitional authority in Cambodia, and dispatch a UN peacekeeping force to Cambodia quickly.

Hun Sen's 'Evil Designs' Blamed for Failure

BK2109094190 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Political commentary: "Hun Sen's Group Must Be Held Responsible for the Failure of the SNC Meeting"]

[Text] The first meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] held early this week in Bangkok, Thailand, ended without reaching agreement on any point. This failure has greatly disappointed the Cambodian people and the countries that have helped to seek peace for Cambodia. Whose fault is it?

During the meeting, Mr. Hun Sen raised many points in an attempt to point out that the Cambodian resistance groups caused the deadlock. Observers, however, saw Mr. Hun Sen's group as the cause of the failure of the SNC meeting because Mr. Hun Sen had taken a step backward from the agreement reached in Jakarta. We agree with this opinion of the observers.

The 12-member SNC meeting at the Cambodian Embassy in Bangkok was set up with the intention of selecting the SNC chairman, who would be the 13th member of the SNC. The selection of the SNC chairman who is also the 13th member was proposed by Samdech Phreah Norodom Sihanouk and this proposal was accepted by the Cambodian factions and was included in the joint statement of the Jakarta meeting held early this month. It has been generally agreed among the SNC members that Samdech Phreah Norodom Sihanouk should be the SNC chairman. But during the Bangkok meeting, Mr. Hun Sen's group set the condition that Samdech Phreah Norodom Sihanouk could not attend the meeting as the 13th member.

Mr. Hun Sen demanded that if the samdech attended the meeting, one of the sixth members from the resistance's side must be removed to maintain the 12-member SNC composition. From this point, we can see that Mr. Hun Sen's group is demanding the overturning of the Jakarta joint communique which is regarded as an essentially important basis for reaching a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem. The alteration of the Jakarta joint communique is very dangerous to the process for peace in Cambodia. This might open the way for Mr. Hun Sen's group to revise various important points in the Jakarta joint communique. For example, the second point stresses: All parties accepted the framework document formulated by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council in its entirety as the basis for settling the Cambodian problem, and committed themselves to elaborating this framework into a comprehensive political settlement through the processes of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

Therefore, leaders of the Cambodian resistance groups are of the opinion that it is necessary not to allow Mr. Hun Sen to change any point in the Jakarta agreement.

As this demand failed, Mr. Hun Sen agreed to have Samdech Phreah Norodom Sihanouk as the chairman and 13th member on the condition that he himself be appointed to lead the Cambodian delegation to attend the UN General Assembly. This condition was rejected by the Cambodian resistance groups because such a demand clearly shows that Mr. Hun Sen's group is attempting to use the SNC aegis to gain recognition for the illegal State of Cambodia, a matter that will bring about more serious problems to the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

Briefly speaking, the SNC meeting was deadlocked because Mr. Hun Sen's group tried to turn away from the Jakarta agreement and the Cambodian resistance leaders tried to prevent Mr. Hun Sen from doing so.

Accepting Samdech Phreah Norodom Sihanouk as the chairman and the 13th member does not cause Mr. Hun Sen's group any disadvantage to the resistance's side. This is because any decision of the SNC must be made from a consensus, not from a majority voice. Mr. Hun Sen wants to use Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk as a bargaining chip to secure for himself the leadership of a Cambodian delegation to the United Nations. This clearly shows Mr. Hun Sen's evil designs. We heard Mr. Hun Sen saying after the formation of the SNC that we have found new luck. However, during the first 12-member SNC meeting in Bangkok, Mr. Hun Sen turned away and tried to use the SNC as a cloak for him to wear at the United Nations.

What other tricks will Mr. Hun Sen's group resort to? As Cambodians, we must always be vigilant because Mr. Hun Sen's group still represents a regime that serves Vietnam's aggressive policy in Cambodia.

Hun Sen Sends Telegram to UN Secretary General

BK2009140790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

["Text" of telegram from Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council]

[Text] Your excellencies:

As you know, according to the Jakarta joint statement, the first session of the Supreme National Council [SNC] took place at the Cambodian Embassy in Bangkok. This meeting has not reached a consensus on the necessity to have the 13th member as the SNC chairman. It remained stalled, unable to solve other more urgent questions, such as the sending of an SNC delegation to the United Nations, the self-imposed restraint on the use of force, and the moratorium on the cessation of military assistance. We believe a chairman could be selected among the SNC members already officially and solemnly formed in Jakarta and that no one should look for personal prestige or advantage contrary to the intensity of the situation and to the urgent need to quickly settle the civil war and achieve national reconciliation. However, if it is deemed necessary to change an SNC member to allow another personality to be a member and SNC chairman in its present formation, we are ready to seriously examine this question.

Faced with this impasse, we proposed unsuccessfully to other SNC members that this question be the subject of the next meeting which, for the present session, must move to address other subjects as mentioned above, namely the sending of an SNC delegtion to the 45th session of the UN General Assembly [UNGA].

At the same time, I would like your excellencies to kindly invite the SNC members to participate in the present session of the UNGA in order to solve at least one urgent and primordial question in conformity with the documents of the permanent members of the UN Security Council and with the Jakarta joint communique.

Please, your excellencies, accept my highest regards.

Mat Ly Receives World Democratic Youth Group

BK1809071590 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0452 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 18—Mat Ly, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea [PRPK] Central Committee, vice chairman of both the National Assembly and the PRPK Control Commission, received here on September 15 a delegation of the World Democratic Youth Federation [WDYF] led by its vice president, Alexander Kvortsov.

Speaking to his guests, Mat Ly warmly welcomed the World Democratic Youth Federation delegation's visit, calling it a support to the just cause of the Cambodian people.

He also spoke of the good-will stance of the State of Cambodia in the quest of peace as well as the all-sided achievements recorded by the Cambodian people over the past 11 years.

In his reply, Alexander Kvortsov expressed the WDYF's support to the just struggle of the Cambodian people and his hope that the relationship between Cambodia and the WDYF would be further consolidated and developed.

Phnom Penh Mayor Cracks Down on Prostitution

BK1809133190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1234 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Sept 18 (AFP)—The Cambodian capital's tough new mayor has launched a campaign to wipe out prostitution here. Hok Lundi, president of the People's Committee of Phnom Penh, said in an interview here Tuesday that the crackdown on prostitutes and pimps had been launched in August.

About 100 people had been rounded up and sent back to their villages, he said, adding of the rest: "Our intention is that within one month they must go back to their villages."

An informed Cambodian source, however, said here that some of the girls were being forced to clean streets and parks as effective punishment.

Mr. Lundi reckoned there were between 300 and 400 prostitutes in the city while other sources put the figure higher, saying many of them were Vietnamese. The city mayor, who has earned a reputation for toughness since taking over the post one month ago, said the country's top women's association had been tasked with educating the girls. The role of the government was to look after their public health, he added, while a medical expert said gonorrhea was prevalent among brothel girls.

Mr. Lundi, describing prostitution as a law and order issue, said pimps were also a problem and the government was intent on "educating" them. "This does not mean we take these people and throw them in prison," he said, adding that pimps faced a minimum three months of reeducation at a special centre on the city outskirts.

Local television, as part of the campaign, has twice a week been broadcasting self-criticisms made on camera by prostitutes, brothel madams and pimps, local residents said.

Mr. Lundi said the illegal brothels were located on the outskirts of the city but to most people the most overt red light district is in the dozens of lean-tos that line the northern and western fringe of the downtown Boeng (Lake) Kak. The Duol Kork area normally hums with activity at night but has been much quieter since the anti-prostitution campaign begun, residents said. One added that two or three smaller redlight areas had escaped the push to date.

Meanwhile, Vietnamese prostitutes working here have reportedly started packing their bag and leaving for southern Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City. Observers say the growth of prostitution, as in Ho Chi Minh City, is linked to the introduction in recent years of economic reforms.

Aug Military Actions in Kompong Thom Reported

BK2109054190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] In August, our Armed Forces in Kompong Thom Province put out of action 422 enemy soldiers, including 258 killed on the battlefield, 43 taken prisoner, and 121 forced to surrender. We also seized 124 assorted weapons, an ICOM field radio, 45 DK shells, 19 105-mm shells, 435 60-mm and 80-mm shells, and 15 hand grenades; we destroyed four weapons.

Red Cross Distributes Aid to Kompong Thom

BK2009103090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] On 11 September, the Cambodian Red Cross distributed 1,000 packets of humanitarian aid from four international organizations: OXFAM, the World Food Program, JVC [Japanese International Volunteer Centre], and CWS [Church World Service], to 827 families of war refugees in Kompong Thom Province, 353 families in Sala Visai Commune and 474 more in Tuol Kruos Commune in Kompong Svay District. Each packet contained 25 items, which included food, kitchen utensils, blankets, scarves, sarongs, and mosquito nets.

Red Cross Distributes Additional Aid in Kampot

BK2009112990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Summary] In September, the Kampot Provincial Red Cross distributed 50 metric tons of rice—aid from the World Food Program—to needy people in Angkor Chey and Dang Tong Districts. This is the sixth batch of World Food Program aid in 1990 to Kampot Provincial Red Cross.

Indonesia

Editorial Praises Cambodia Accord in Jakarta

BK2009050290 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 12 Sep 90 p 6

[Editorial: "A New Era in S.E. Asia]

[Text] It is helpful to place the remarkable event that took place Monday night [10 September] in Hotel Indonesia—the first international hotel constructed after Indonesia achieved its independence, with its completion in the early 1960s supervised by then president Sukarno himself—in the historical context of ASEAN efforts to search for a political solution to the Cambodian conflict.

The four Cambodian parties that gathered in Jakarta responding to the invitation extended by the co-conveners of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, Indonesia and France, issued a joint statement which formulated their agreement on two cardinal issues.

Firstly, they accepted the framework document formulated by the Five Permanent Members of the Security Council—the U.S., the Soviet Union, France, the United Kingdom, and China—in its entirety as the basis for settling the Cambodian conflict. Secondly, they agreed on the formation of a transitional body, and its composition, pending the implementation of a general election. This body, the Supreme National Council (SNC), will be "the unique legitimate body and source of authority in which, throughout the transitional period, the independence, sovereignty and unity of Cambodia is embodied." The Cambodian leaders' agreement, when fully and speedily implemented will very much simplify the complexities and the contours of the Cambodian conflict.

Three of the four parties present at the Hotel Indonesia meeting took part at an earlier meeting in 1981 related to the fate of their country that was organized in a much more lavish hotel in Singapore, the Shangri-la Hotel. It was a strange mix of a gathering to say the least. The

Cambodian royalist group was represented by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the centrists had their most senior leader, Son Sann, who at one time served as Sihanouk's prime minister, and the Khmer Rouge sent one of its minor leaders Khieu Samphan.

That they could be gathered under one roof was indeed a tribute to the persistent diplomatic prodding of Singapore and Thailand, with the assistance of Indonesia. One particular Indonesian diplomat, Anwar Sani, then director general for political affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, had worked very hard to persuade Prince Sihanouk to take part at the Hotel Sangri-la conclave. A joint statement was subsequently issued which was later developed and became the basis for the establishment of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK).

When the outcome of that meeting was assessed in an informal session in Jakarta by a small group of foreign policy analysts, Anwar Sani had a hard time explaining Indonesia's participation in planning the setting up of a government-in-exile. It was also not so easy for him to explain the rationale behind the move to unite three such contrasting groups, especially the decision to include the Khmer Rouge.

Political moralism aside—although recent developments related to the Cambodian conflict have shown that it should not be totally discarded—the formation of a coalition of Cambodian resistance groups as a counterweight to the by-product of the Vietnamese invasion into Cambodia—the then newly established Phnom Penh regime—did carry its own logic based on the tenets of international law. After all, the Khmer Rouge, although ousted from Cambodia,—as a result of which millions of Cambodians were liberated from a regime based on organized terror—and Thailand had called for the assistance of ASEAN as the kingdom felt threatened by the Vietnamese troops poised on its eastern border.

Thus we have witnessed during the ensuing years the implementation of ASEAN's diplomatic strategy at the UN with the CGDK as its main policy instrument. The goal was quite clear: to deny Vietnam any benefit from the political fruits of its military invasion in the form of legitimatizing the Phnom Penh regime.

A range of developments have taken place between the 1981 meeting in Shangri-la Hotel in Singapore and the recent one in Hotel Indonesia.

Since Chatchai Chunhawan became prime minister in 1988, Thailand has transformed its threat perception and views the Indochina countries as a potential area for its trade and investment.

Vietnam withdrew its military forces from Cambodia last year which although univerfied by international observers is generally accepted as an accomplished fact.

In the meanwhile, the rising concern in the Western democracies, particularly in the United States, has been that the Khmer Rouge could achieve a comeback in Cambodia. This has pressured those governments to distance themselves from support of Pol Pot's group, even in an indirect manner.

Listing some of the developments that occurred during the last nine years does not necessarily prove that the Shangri-la initiative, which was later worked out as ASEAN's diplomatic strategy in coping with the Cambodian conflict has been a total failure. To be fair, it does have its merits. But with the adoption of the joint statement on Monday by the four Cambodian parties, which elevates the Phnom Penh regime to a more respectable position, ASEAN and the peoples of Indochina are entering "a new era," as Foreign Minister Ali Alatas so aptly stated, "although the road ahead of us may still be rough."

A new era calls for a new strategy and a new awareness on what is attainable and what should be prevented in working towards the establishment of an independent, sovereign and united Cambodia. This should be Indonesia's assignment, persuading the rest of ASEAN that the new opportunities offered by Monday's joint statement of the Cambodian leaders can only be beneficial to Southeast Asia if ASEAN can come up with a new strategy to face the new era in this subregion.

Energy Minister Views Need for Nuclear Plants

BK2109055190 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita has stated Indonesia must possess nuclear power plants by the year 2000 to meet growing electricity demands. Giving a lecture to delegates of the Islamic Students Association Congress in Jakarta last night, Minister Ginanjar said electricity demands in Java will reach 16,000 megawatts by 2000. This means an additional 10,000 megawatts will be needed, while only 5,800 megawatts will be generated in the last year of the fourth five-year plan. According to Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita, after considering various factors, nuclear power plants will be advantageous.

Laos

SRV National Assembly Delegation Ends Visit

Meets Phoumi Vongvichit

BK2009052290 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, received at the Presidential Office in Vientiane capital a courtesy call from Le Quang Dao, chairman of the SRV National Assembly, and delegation which is on a current visit to Laos.

On this occasion, Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit highly assessed the visit to Laos by the delegation of the SRV National Assembly, the visit, which he said, has brought about the further strengthening of the longstanding special solidarity and all-around cooperation between Laos and Vietnam. The guest and the host talked with each other in a friendly atmosphere on various issues in relation with Laos and Vietnam. They also exchanged views on international and regional situations related to Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

On the Cambodian issue, the two sides expressed pleasure over the outcome of the recent Jakarta informal meeting among the four Cambodian factions. They agreed the the meeting has served as a significant step leading to the comprehensive, fair, and reasonable settlement of the Cambodian problem through political means to guarantee the Cambodian people's rights to self-determination.

Departs 20 Sep

BK2009140490 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Le Quang Dao, chairman of the SRV National Assembly, and his party returned home this evening, concluding an eight-day visit to Laos at the invitation of the chairman of Laos' Supreme People's Assembly [SPA].

Seeing Le Quang Dao and his party off at Wattai airport were His Excellency Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; members of the SPA Standing Committee; and a number of high-level officials. Nguyen Xuan, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, was also present at the airport.

Press Release Issued

BK2009154590 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 20 Sep 90

["Press Release on the official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic of Comrade Le Quang Dao, chairman of the SRV National Assembly"—read by announcer]

[Text] In response to the invitation of Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], Comrade Le Quang Dao, chairman of the SRV National Assembly and vice chairman of the SRV Council of State, paid an official friendship visit to the LPDR from 13 to 20 September 1990.

During his visit, Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao and his party laid wreaths at the Monument of the Unknown Combatants and visited a number of historical sites, Lao revolution museums, and economic and cultural bases in Vientiane capital, Vientiane Province, and Luang Prabang Province. Comrade Le Quang Dao and his party were accorded a warm and most cordial reception from party organizations, SPA members, administrative agencies, and the fraternal Lao people at every place they visited.

Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao called on Comrade President Souphanouvong, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau; paid a courtesy call on Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, acting president of the LPDR, and chairman of the Lao Front for National Construction; and visited Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense.

The Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association's delegation led by Comrade Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the party Central Committee, minister, head of the offices of the party Central Committee and Council of Ministers, and chairman of the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association, paid a courtesy call on Chairman Le Quang Dao at the government's guest house.

During the visit, Chairman Le Quang Dao and his party met and exchanged views with Lao leaders in a warm, friendly, and fraternal atmosphere.

Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and SPA chairman, hosted a reception in honor of Comrade Le Quang Dao and his party.

Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao held talks with Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan. During the meeting, the two chairmen informed each other about political, economic, and social developments in each country, as well as about achievements and shortcomings each country has encountered in its endeavors to score new victories for the urgent and immediate task of restructuring.

Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao informed his counterpart about the successes of the Ninth Plenum of the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, during which the draft socialist construction plan for the transitional period, the draft socioeconomic development strategy from now to the year 2000, and the direction of the five-year development plan for the period from 1991 to 1995 were reviewed prior to their presentation to the Seventh CPV Congress.

Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan informed his counterpart about the campaign to promote democratic rights among cadres, soldiers, policemen, and the people and the movement for discussion of the LPDR's first draft constitution and draft political report to be presented at the upcoming Fifth Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP].

The two chairmen exchanged views on international and regional developments of common interest. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of profound comradely friendship and unanimity on every issue raised for discussion. The two chairmen expressed their wholehearted commendation for the great multifaceted victories scored by the fraternal Cambodian people on the basis of respect for independence, sovereignty, and right to self-determination of the Cambodian people.

The two chairmen highly appraised the correct and goodwilled stand of the State of Cambodia and acclaimed the agreement concluded on 10 September 1990 by various Cambodian factions on their recognition of the resolution adopted by the five member countries of the UN Security Council on the comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem [words indistinct] the formation of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia.

The two chairmen noted the agreement reached by the Cambodian factions constitued a crucial step toward the resumption of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia. As members of this international conference, Vietnam and Laos are always ready to do their utmost to contribute to the success of the conference on the Cambodian problem.

The two chairmen expressed their concern over the tense situation in the Persian Gulf region and called on all parties concerned to exert joint efforts to settle the situation through peaceful means for the benefit of the people in the region and world peace and stability.

Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao and Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed their pleasure and satisfaction over the ceaseless expansion and strengthening of the fine and pure traditions created by great President Ho Chi Minh; of the great friendly relations, special solidarity, and all-around cooperation between their two parties, states, and peoples; as well as solidarity, friendship, and all-around cooperation among the fraternal peoples of the three countries—Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan highly appraised the brilliant success of the friendship visit of Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao and regarded this visit as a new development of the friendly ties and traditional cooperation between the two supreme power organizations of the two states and countries and as a contribution to the strengthening of special solidarity and friendship and all-around cooperation between Vietnam and Laos in the new era.

The two chairmen expressed their firm belief that the Vietnamese people, under the correct and clever leadership of the honorable CPV headed by revered Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, and the Lao people under the leadership of the honorable LPRP headed by revered Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan, will make joint endeavors to do their utmost to defend and promote forever the friendly ties between Vietnam and Laos.

Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao expressed his sincere thanks to Comrade Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan and the SPA of the LPDR for the warm, cordial, and comradely reception. Comrade Chairman Le Quang Dao wished the multiethnic Lao people new greater victories in their tasks of national defense and construction and improving, expanding, and renovating the popular democratic system to build, step by step, a prosperous and happy life.

Population Census Begins Throughout Country

BK1909091490 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] After making material preparations and completing a training of census takers on how to count and list the population and dwelling houses, beginning at 0000 on 17 September, a population census and house registration has been carried out throughout the country and it will continue until 19 September 1990. The purpose of the population census and house registration on this occasion is to collect additional, clear information for use as the basis for working out the third five-year plan and the adoption of various policies aimed at raising the living standard of the people. It is also aimed at getting an estimate of our country's population.

This population census and house registration has been carried out in 300 selected villages in addition to five major district towns and provincial municipal cities throughout the country, such as Luang Prabang, Vientiane, Thakhek, Savannakhet, and Pakse.

Philippines

Reportage on U.S. Bases Talks Continues

'Tight Security' Reported

HK1509092790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Sep 90

[Text] Tight security measures have been adopted for the coming negotiations on the future of U.S. military bases in the country. As of broadcast time, no one knows when and how media coverage will be conducted regarding the second round of exploratory talks on the bases. Even the international press center which handled media coverage during the last exploratory talks could not provide information on accreditation procedures. It is believed that details regarding the talks are being kept under wraps to avoid demonstrations and to ensure the security of members of both sides. The site of the press center where daily briefings for journalists are to be conducted remains a mystery and will likely be revealed only on the day of the talks.

Meanwhile, members of the media will be advised by the international press center on Sunday on where they are to assemble for the opening ceremony of the bases talks.

In a related development, it was learned that Filipino employees at Clark and Subic bases will hold a demonstration on the opening day of the talks to protest exclusion of the issue of Filipino workers' welfare in the talks' agenda.

Police on 'Alert' for Rallies

HK1909095790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Sep 90 p 20

[Text] Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Marino Filart, PC [Philippine Constabulary] Capital Regional Command (Capcom) chief and Metropolitan Police Force (MPF) director, said yesterday that the police forces in Metro Manila are on the alert in anticipation of rallies by anti-U.S. bases groups. Filart said the policemen will be composed mostly of lawmen from Western Police District (WPD) and the Metropolitan Police Field Force (MPPF). A Navy contingent will be on standby in case the police force could not cope anymore with the rallyists.

More Troops Deployed

HK1909095990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Sep 90 p 20

[Text] Some 1,200 troops of the Capital Region Command (Capcom) will be deployed today in Metro Manila to provide security against threats by rebel groups, including anti-bases demonstrators, to disrupt the U.S. bases talks.

The military said yesterday that troops will be on "heightened" security mission during the bases talks. Military sources said that communist rebels plan to kill American personnel in the country to embarrass the Aquino government.

Aquino To Support Manglapus Stand

HK2009141190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] In Malacanang, President Aquino said she will support any stand by Foreign Affairs Secretary Manglapus at the negotiating table. The negotiations will adjourn on Saturday and a date will be set for the second round of talks in the coming months. Here is Press Secretary Tomas Gomez:

[Begin Press Secretary Gomez recording in English—in progress] ...from the U.S. panel spokesman Stanley Schraeger on these matters of the ongoing talks. Again these are matters that are properly taken up at the level of the panel rather than by the president at this point. [end recording]

'Not Able' To Reject Extension

HK2009101390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Sep 90

[By Cesar Chavez from the Senate]

[Text] It appears that the negotiation by the Philippine-American panels on the fate of the U.S. military bases in the country has ended. The Philippine government was not able to reject the American panel's request to allow the military bases to stay in the country for 10 more years. This is because the University of the Philippines president Jose Abueva, chairman of the executive-legislative bases council, disclosed today the bases conversion to an integrated development area and civilian use could only be enforced after 10 years.

Senate observers say Abueva admitted the Philippines could not afford to lose the military bases by 1991 because this would result in economic dislocation and many will lose their jobs, since the bases conversion plan could not be enforced by the Bases Development Authority in 10 years.

When asked if this statement by Abueva could affect the Philippine's position, Senate Foreign Relations committee chairperson Senator Leticia Ramos Shahani said it does not mean a 10-year phaseout period would be adopted just because there is no alternative program.

Abueva said they will present their study to President Aquino on 4 October. Abueva's statement to senate reporters is considered by senate observers as a sabotage to the Philipine position on the ongoing bases negotiation.

Manila Document Criticizes Bases

HK2009135790 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] The Philippine Government issued a document criticizing the U.S. military bases and their true role in the country.

The 10-page paper was issued by the government committee on the bases in an effort to inform the people of the true reason behind the stay of the U.S. bases in the country. The document stresses that any policy by the United States on the Philippines ensures that its facilities remain in the country. The U.S. Government allegedly supported the Marcos regime to ensure the retention of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base for a long period of time.

The paper also notes the alleged support given by the U.S. Government to former President Magsaysay when the presence of communists grew in 1950. The paper also questions the United States' total freedom to operate its facilities in combat operations even without the Philippine Government's approval.

The paper also clearly states the possible storage of nuclear weapons at the U.S. facilities in the country.

Spokesman on Philippine Position

HK2009031390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 20 Sep 90 p 1, 8

[Excerpts] The United States wants continued military access to the bases following a proposed gradual American withdrawal. In a statement read to media, U.S. panel spokesman Stanley Schrager said his government recognized Philippine sovereignty and reiterated it was willing to pull out its military base gradually. [passage omitted]

For his part, Philippine spokesman Rafael Alunan said that the first working session covered veterans' affairs, environment, science and technology, health, trade, aid management, and debt. Alunan summarized the Philippine position on these issues as follows:

—Rescission Act of 1946 should be repealed because it deprives Philippine veterans of World War 2 from being granted the benefits enjoyed by their American counterparts. Defense undersecretary Feliciano Gacis said a new bilateral relationship would be meaningless without resolving this problem.

—Debt relief, including condonation, similar to that granted to Egypt should be extended to the Philippines. Finance Undersecretary Ernest Leong described as "cumbersome and complicated" U.S. procedures for financing development projects.

—A common vision should be formed by the U.S. and the Philippines for the economic development in the next century based on the disparity in their economic stattus and in the spirit of fair play. Trade Secretary Jose Concepcion demanded that the Philippines be given the same trade concessions as China and the Caribbean countries.

—Philippine economic development through science and technology should be developed.

—A summit to discuss mutual ecological security and conservation of biological diversity should be held. Environment and Natural Resources Undersecretary Gregorio Magdaraog expressed concern over reports of ecological damage brought by the U.S. bases.

—Cooperation in the areas of child survival, health care manpower development, medical technology transfer, as well as ways to counter health and social problems caused by the presence of U.S. bases.

—The Philippines should be given a larger role in identifying projects by the U.S. Economic Planning Undersecretary Ponciano Intal decried the trying of U.S.-funded projects to the procurement of U.S. goods and services.

Alunan said the two panels were "of like mind" on the issues of environment, science and technology, and health.

Armitage's remarks about letting Philippine voters of the 21st century decide the bases question drew an angry reply from Sen. Joseph Estrada. The Liberal Party senator, an advocate of the bases immediate withdrawal, said Armitage's statements made on the opening of the second round of the bases talks, were contradictory.

In Olongapo City, the 22,000-strong Federation of Filipino Civilian Employees Association [FFCEA] in the U.S. bases Tuesday night agreed to go on strike "anytime between now and October 1" over a wage row with the base management. FFCEA president Roberto Flores threw the question on whether to strike or not to some 5,000 base workers, who replied unanimously in the affirmative.

Manila 'Expects' Security Talks

HK2009141590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] The Philippine panel on the bases expects that the point for discussion until Saturday will be security arrangements amidst the phaseout of the U.S. bases in the country. The Philippines and the U.S. are also discussing the latter's proposal for continued access to its major military bases despite the phaseout.

According to Rafael Alunan, the new relations that the Philippines wants covers security and defense. Earlier, Alunan announced that the dismantling of the bases will proceed if no agreeement is reached by the groups headed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and Richard Armitage by January 1991.

Police Block Antibases Protesters

HK2109100190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Sep 90

[By Bert Silva of DZRH Mobile Unit 17]

[Text] This is in relation to a rally by members of the League of Filipino Students [LFS]. There seems to be another confrontation between the members of the Metropolitan Police force and demonstrators who are presently here at the corner of Kalaw and Roxas Boulevard leading to Baclaran. The group of the Metropolitan Police Force is on the left side and almost all the roads leading to Roxas Boulevard—from Del Pilar to Fairview up to the Magsaysay building are full of Metropolitan force who do not intend to let the members of the LFS and other cause-oriented groups pass through to the front of the U.S. embassy. Stand by for more reports, whether the demonstrators will be permitted to go near the U.S. Embassy to continue their protest against the military bases in the Philippines.

500 Rebels Said Around Bases

HK2009135590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Brigadier General Demetrio Camua declared the presence of 500 communist rebels around Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base. Camua also said that the communist rebels had summoned comrades assigned to nearby provinces to launch attacks on American installations.

Earlier, the U.S. State Department warned against visits by Americans to Roxas Boulevard because of an expected attack on the U.S. Embassy and on the Central Bank, where the bases talks are being held. Today, security at the Central Bank was stepped up and it is now surrounded by anti-riot police.

Government Firm on Takeover

HK2109044190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Sep 90 pp 1, 8

[By Redempto Anda and Roland Pascual]

[Excerpts] The Philippine government formally stated yesterday that it wanted to take over the Clark Air Base as soon as possible, in keeping with the constitutional provisions that all United States military facilities should be closed after Sept. 16, 1991.

Entering the second day of bases talks, the Philippine panel headed by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus asked that the United States to immediately convene a transition team to work on the phaseout of the Americans' largest military facility.

Panel spokesman Rafael Alunan III said the government is planning to convert the facility into a "civil aviation complex" as had been recommended by the bases conversion body headed by the University of the Philippines president Jose Abueva.

The United States panel, led by Richard Armitage, is expected to commend on the Philippine government's position in today's round of talks. [passage omitted]

Explaining the Philippine panel's position after the press briefing, Alunan clarified that the government still wants a new accord that covers not only security arrangements but the whole range of RP [Republic of Philippines]-U.S. relations. Earlier, the panel had proposed the inclusion in the talks of non-military issues such as a veterans' rights, health, environment, trade and other concerns.

Alunan asserted that all U.S. military facilities will have to be closed after September 16, 1991 "unless they are covered by another treaty."

Asked why the Philippine panel specifically centered on the closure of Clark, Alunan said they wanted to conduct separate discussions on each of the five American military facilities. Expected to be tackled today is the Crow Valley military training facility in Zambales, another key U.S. facility. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, contrary to an earlier report, the CHRONICLE learned that the British firm hired by the council to survey the market potential of Subic submitted "favorable recommendations on the viability of immediately transforming Subic into a Maritime Industrial Complex."

Swan Hunter Ltd., which had managed the conversion plan of military installations worldwide, said that unlike other countries, the 4,400 Filipinos workers in Subic are "well-skilled enough to handle the demands of the conversion plan."

The surveyors noted the Filipinos "were even highly commended by base officials." They also said the only major undertaking would be the "setting up of a track record for the Philippines as major ship repair yard which would take over time."

News Briefing on First Round

HK2109091990 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0630 GMT 21 Sep 90

[News briefing by Philippine and U.S. panel spokesmen, namely, Rafael Alunan and Stanley Shraeger, at the briefing room at the Philippine International Convention Center—live in English—broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [Alunan in progress] ...RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. relations. The talks were intense but congenial, with both panels committed to strengthening their ties on the basis of equality and mutual respect. This is the spirit of the Philippines-American cooperation talks or pact which will resume in one month in Manila. The exact date is still to be determined.

We welcome the U.S. panel's acknowledgment of, and empathy for our aspirations from their willingness to cooperate with us as befits a longtime friend and ally. Thank you very much.

[Shraeger passage omitted]

[Reporter] [words indistinct] other facilities discussed, and number two, have the two panels agreed on the technicalities on Clark and Subic?

[Alunan] Clark and Subic are still under discussion and consideration. The proposals of both sides have been presented to both panels and both panels will be discussing the matter with their principals. And I have been made to understand that with respect to the other facilities, they shall revert to the Philippines on September 17 1991 [as heard].

[Reporter] These other facilities, you were referring to John Hay or the O'Donnell, Wallace...what is the other one? San Miguel.

[Alunan] That is right.

[Reporter] Did you discuss amount or timeframe during this discussion today?

[Alunan] In the case of amount, no. There was nothing discussed about compensation. With respect to duration, the U.S. panel spoke in terms—if I am not mistaken—10 to 12 years. Along those lines.

[Reporter] Follow up to that. What about the treaties envisioned by the two sides? The Spanish model was mentioned the other day. Were there other treaties to be considered?

[Alunan] I understand that in reference to the framework of the type of treaty that could be hammered out, there were references made to the Spanish and Greek treaties. But it has not inhibited both sides from looking at other models.

[Reporter] So, both sides have agreed on a phasedown. So they still have to thresh out details like how long this phasedown would take, at what rate it will occur, and what is the Philippines' position on the phasedown?

[Alunan] The Philippines' position on the phasedown will have to be discussed at a later time. The proposal of the United States is now under due consideration by the Philippine side.

[Reporter] Stan, two things: Does the U.S. agree that the other four facilities will close on September 17 1991, and secondly, what is the U.S. proposal on the table in terms of a phasedown?

[Shraeger] Let me address both of those. The other facilities have been mentioned briefly and we have not yet come to a conclusion on what should be done with any of them at this time. The Philippine proposal yesterday regarding Clark was, as Raffy [refers to Alunan] indicated, a proposal and we are considering that and we will be responding to it. The same regarding the other facilities also. We have not specifically talked in terms of a 10 to 12-year transition. I know that has been mentioned as 10 years, but our purpose is to see this work correctly [as heard] and work for the benefit of both countries. And the duration of something—that will be discussed, and we have not really set out any upper limits or parameters or what we would like to see happen at this point. So, these are proposals, and this week was a week of proposals and counterproposals and working together in a cooperative way, as we have said the first day—to make this transition period beneficial to all concerned. And for both our countries, that remains our objective and something that we will pursue in the coming discussions.

[Reporter] [passage indistinct] discussions continue?

[Shraeger] As Raffy said, the discussions will continue here in about one month to end on—we have not got a date yet but we are looking for something [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Secretary, you said you asked the United States to leave Clark. Have you asked them to close Subic, too? Similarly.

[Alunan] No, last night, I said that we asked for Clark as soon as possible, and I was asked how soon will that be. And I said: Well, that depends. If there is no arrangement or rather no new treaty before September 16 1991, then they will have to leave on that day.

[Reporter] Did you ask the same thing from Subic?

[Alunan] In the case of Subic, today we listened to the proposal of the United States.

[Reporter] What is that proposal?

[Alunan] For a phasedown. We listened to their proposal which is now subject to consideration by the Philippines.

[Reporter] A phasedown of 10 to 12 years or five to seven?

[Alunan] I understand that the position was 10 to 12 years.

[Reporter] Did you make a counterproposal?

[Alunan] No, not yet. It is still under consideration.

[Reporter] Secretary, I am confused. Mr Shraeger says that there has not been agreement that the other four facilities will be returned next year, and you said that they will be returned. What exactly is the status of discussion on the other four facilities?

[Alunan] Well, I have been made to understand just before I came here, that there was some understanding on the four facilities. I have to stand by my story.

[Reporter] And exactly what is the understanding?

[Alunan] That they shall revert to the Philippines by September 17 1991.

[Reporter] I am bothered by two phrases: Phasedown and access. By phasedown, does that mean the bases are here to stay, only trimmed down? And by access, will there be military presence after 1992?

[Shraeger] This is something that has to be discussed. But we use the word phasedown to mean a gradual reduction of U.S. presence, and we use the term access to mean precisely that, access to some of the military facilities which, of course, are Philippine military facilities on presumably a commercial or other acceptable basis. We have this access arrangement with a number of countries around the world. It is the kind of idea we are negotiating with Singapore, for example, right now for access. Very often, that access includes a small military presence also. And this is something we would like to pursue, if appropriate and if acceptable, with the Philippine Government. So, phasedown suggests, very wisely so, a situation where U.S. military access will not disappear completely to the Philippines and we continue to believe that a security relationship of some kind over the next years is in the interest of both our countries. And what we are trying to do now, and what we tried to do this week and what we will be continuing to do, is figure out how we get from point A which is where we are now to point B which is where we would like to be. And that point B entails, as I have said, a reduced U.S. military presence and access, if acceptable to the Philippine Government, under ways to be determined, under methods to be determined, access to some appropriate facilities.

[Reporter] Do we understand that you are going to replace the military bases treaty with a new agreement?

[Alunan] Well, it could come to that. It all depends on the discussions between now and say, December.

[Reporter] Was that brought out in these talks this week that the...[changes thought] an overall change of the MBA [military bases agreement]?

[Alunan] No, not in that light. What we are trying to do is hammer out a new relationship with the United States that will be followed by a treaty. And that particular treaty would include, as I said, health, trade, debt-aid management, science and technology etc, including security matters. But it will not be an MBA.

[Reporter] One more question for Mr Shraeger. Was there a timeframe for—I guess Mr Alunan says 10 to 12 years, and you are not too specific about that—your phasedown?

[Shraeger] We are not specific because we are not wedded to any particular number of years at this point. We know where we want to go, and that is somehow get to the point B where we can have a legitimately decent, increasingly better relationship that allows us some kind of access to the military facilities, allows us to do what we want to do, at the same time, recognizing the situation of the Philippines, economically, politically, and in terms of its own security. We do not want to harm that either. We want this to work out for both countries. So, we have not made a specific proposal at this time of 10 to 12 years. Mr Armitage, of course, in his opening statement said that there is a monumental difference between 12 months and 12 years. And he referred to some kind of, perhaps, access to military facilities in the Philippines in the 21st century. But at this point, I do not want to be anymore explicit than that because I think both panels would like to retain some flexibility in debating and negotiating the duration of this transition period.

[Reporter] One question each for both gentlemen. Mr Alunan, when you said that the four facilities will be reverted back to the Philippines after September 16 1991, is it true that the Philippine panel is close to a possible inclusion of these facilities in any possible treaty? And the question for Mr Shraeger: Could you give us some specific figures on what exactly do you want to happen in terms of limited presence, troops presence? Could you give us numbers and numbers of facilities and personnel?

[Alunan] The answer to your question is yes. The question is: Are we close to including this in a treaty, the four facilities? Obviously, if it's been, if we want them to be returned by the United States to us, then it will no longer be included [as heard]

[Shraeger] I will respond briefly to your question on numbers. This is something that we are going to be discussing. Which is precisely what we want to discuss and what we will be discussing with the Philippine panel: How many numbers are involved? How many people are involved in this drawdown, in this reduction, and in this phasedown. So I cannot be anymore specific at this point than that.

[Reporter] Mr Secretary, did you discuss Crow Vally access today?

[Alunan] No, we did not discuss Crow Valley access today.

[Reporter] Have you discussed options to renew a treaty for whatever period of time that treaty is? Have options to renew been discussed?

[Alunan] Not yet, we have not reached that point.

[reporter] I would like to ask this of both spokespersons: Has there been a definite agreement as to the exact meaning of the terms: Sovereignty and phasedown and access?

[Alunan] As to agreement on phasedown and access, that is the subject of discussion. As to the meaning of sovereignty, I guess...as far I am concerned, as far as I know it, and from what Mr Armitage has been saying I think he understands it fully well.

[Shraeger] Let me briefly respond to the question. I agree with Raffy on phasedown and access. This is something that we are going to be...[changes thought] there are clearly degrees and varying rates of phasedown and there are clearly varying degrees of access. And this is a subject for future discussions.

Regarding sovereignty, we have always considered the Philippines to be a sovereign nation. The military installations at Clark and Subic are Philippine bases, clearly, legally, on which exist U.S. military facilities. Now, through the degree or through the extent that there is a perception on the part of the Filipino people that, for some reason or another, these are not sovereign or the country is not sovereign, then we want to do what we can to correct that perception or misperception as the case maybe. We consider this a sovereign country and we consider the Philippines able to make sovereign decisions. We also believe that the very act of negotiating with another country is a sovereign decision. The Philippines has a... [changes thought] can make a decision not to agree to continue their security relationship which is a sovereign decision. It can make a decision to continue the relationship which, to our way of thinking, is an equally sovereign decision.

So when you talk about sovereignty, I think there is a lot of subjective elements involved, and a lot of perceptions and misperceptions, and we want to do everything we can to recognize and emphasize the sovereignty of the Philippines.

[Reporter] I have another question for both spokespersons. Since this last day has been a day of discussing defense and security, have both panels come to an agreement as to what they consider the most immediate threat to the security of the region?

[Alunan] No, that was not taken up at all.

[Shraeger] That was not discussed at all.

[Reporter] Was there a U.S. response on Clark? Response to the Clark proposal today?

[Shraeger] Was there a U.S. response on Clark? No, today there was none. As I said, we consider this, as Raffy said yesterday, a proposal from the Philippine side, and we will be discussing it and considering our response.

[Reporter] Please explain the proposed commercialization of Subic, and the involvement of the Philippines and the United States in this commercialization?

[Shraeger] We do not know that yet. We know where we want to go which is increased commercialization and ways to do this, which is ship repair facilities and other ways—these are the kinds of things that the experts will be exploring and the panel will be discussing.

[Reporter] The Americans have indicated that they want access to the facilities. I want to ask a question to both spokespersons: If under access arrangements, does this require a treaty or just an agreement? Let us say, the U.S. wants landing rights over commercialization...?

[Alunan] Our technical committees will determine that. We have not discussed those fine points.

[Reporter] Mr Shraeger, based on the U.S. military needs and foreign policy considerations, what will be the minimum required presence and access after this, after reaching point B as you said?

[Shraeger] I could not say that now. That is one of the things we will be discussing.

[Reporter] This is for Stan. Would the U.S. want to have an extention of the military bases agreement or treaty?

[Shraeger] We are well aware of what the Constitution says and we abide by the Philippine Constitution—that is the law of the land. And within those parameters, our job this week and in the months to come is to hammer out an acceptable agreement and the procedure will then follow.

[Reporter] I would like to ask Mr Shraeger. So, is the U.S. actually close to the discussions on phaseout? Is phasedown for continuing presence? When will the U.S. actually talk about phaseout?

[Shraeger] We are talking at this point. Our proposal has been for a phasedown and a reduction, and that is our proposal at this point.

[Reporter] Sir, follow up to both spokespersons. So the week, as Mr Shraeger described, was a week of proposals and counterproposals. So is that the central achievement of the entire week? Just receiving proposals and submitting counterproposals?

[Shraeger] I think there have been a number of achievements this week, and I think the idea to work toward a new relationship that encompasses other things than the security relationship...I think a healthy airing of views on the security relationship and the aspects of our security alliance was very helpful.

I think the agreement to continue this discussion here in Manila a month from now certainly indicates that we are on the right track. And that both countries and both panels have entered this discussion in a spirit of good faith. And I think that was demonstrated. I think the week has really been a success on that point and we hope to continue in the future.

[Reporter] To both panelists, I would like to have my own interpretation of the treaty. If you don't need a treaty for the four facilities to be returned before September 17 next year, I think I can take this to mean that a phasedown of such a matter has to be governed by a treaty. After all, a Senate-ratified treaty is going to be a [word indistinct], given the complexion of the Senate. Can you comment?

[Alunan] You are free to your interpretation. But [words indistinct] technical committees and the final outcome of all the discussions to be cleared as such.

[Reporter] Questions for both gentlemen. Both of you said at the start of the talks that what you wanted to achieve during this discussion was to arrive at some understanding of a framework for future talks. How far did you get toward that goal? Have you reached at least part of that goal, or is everything put together already?

[Shraeger] I think we have. The general framework which is that we want to talk about it, as I mentioned, other than security. We want a broad range of agreement to benefit both countries. We want technical experts to sort of fill in the blanks and fill in the details of these broader agreements. We want to talk about a number of things. We want to talk about a reduction and a phasedown consistent with the Philippine views on sovereignty. And we agree with those views. We recognize those views. We certainly hear the message we have been receiving for years now about Philippine nationalism and we respect that. And I believe that Mr Armitage's comments earlier in the week certainly reflected that understanding and our sensitivity to those concerns. So I think that would be the framework that we set out this week. And we are going to continue now within those guidelines.

[Alunan] I just agree with Stan here that we are very, very appreciative of the spirit of cooperation reflected by the American side during these talks and we have been assured that this same spirit will continue throughout, until we arrive at some arrangement. I believe that under the circumstances, it would be difficult for you to assume that both sides may be discussing or coming before the table in bad faith or with a hidden agenda. So I think the discussions, as we said, were very intense, very candid, but at the same time, congenial and frank.

[Reporter] Will the United States continue to have access to the four facilities that will be handed back? Will they continue to be operated as communications facilities?

[Shraeger] We don't know that yet. These are the things that we have to discuss.

[Alunan] Like we have said before, the technical panel will have to determine that.

[Reporter] They will be close. [passage indistinct]

[Alunan] We don't know what the outcome will be. We will let you know when the time comes.

[Reporter] Did the U.S. make a counterproposal on Clark in terms of a phasedown or any proposal?

[Shraeger] No, we did not.

[Reporter] And secondly, Secretary Alunan, yesterday you were quoted as saying that if an agreement is not reached by January, the government will order the dismantling of the bases. Is that absolute or is there [words indistinct]?

[Alunan] We say that we will not dismantle but we would rather create a committee that will oversee the dismantling of the bases. I think there should be a transition period, if we don't have an agreement by that time, that could allow for some order in the dismantling of the bases.

[Shraeger] Let me get back to that. In response to your question about a counterproposal after the Philippine proposal, we began the discussions on Clark by making a proposal for a gradual phasedown and reduction. And I don't want to go into too many details, again, because I do not want to limit our flexibility in further discussions. So we made that proposal. The Philippine side then came to us after some discussions on their own with their proposal. And that is where we left it last night. Today there was no further discussion of that, and we left it after having heard their proposal and we will consider that.

[Reporter] I have a question for Mr Shraeger. Did you consider the Gulf situation or the military presence of another superpower in this region when you proposed a gradual phasedown of existing military facilities here?

[Shraeger] Let me say that the Gulf situation was not referred to in the course of these discussions. And obviously, when we made that proposal, we considered that worldwide threatening environment and the evolving security situation in the world.

[Reporter] I am Lito Molina from the MANILA STANDARD. I have a question for both spokespersons. You never discussed compensation during the past four days of negotiations. But I understand that Finance Undersecretary Ernest Leung has proposed a condemnation of sort of the Philippine debts [as heard]. Of course, I think the U.S. Government's portion of the foreign debts. Would you consider this compensation might turn the balance between allowing the U.S. military presence to continue in the next round of talks?

[Shraeger] No, I could not speculate on that, but you know, Secretary Leung joined the distinguished array of other Philippine Government officials in portraying some of the concerns they have in particular areas, and we appreciate that very much. And we learned an awful lot from their presentations and others similar to it.

[Reporter] Did you suggest that the technical committee could determine that continued access and presence would not require a treaty or did I misunderstand that?

[Alunan] The technical committee will provide us with the details which will therefore enable both panels to arrive at certain decisions. They will be purely recommendatory.

[Reporter] Follow up to that. When is the technical committee supposed to come to the front? Are they taking over during the interim before the meeting in October?

[Shraeger] It is possible. We will have to work that out. We think it is a very good idea. We want this to be something that moves the process along. We have not decided where or when this technical committee will meet, whether it is better for both sides, obviously in the hope to move along on this subject as soon as possible.

[Reporter] I think I understand that you still have to discuss. I am confused by these four facilities. As I understand with Secretary Alunan, it seems that there is some sort of ultimatum from the Philippine side saying that these will be shut down next year. And Stan Shraeger, you say that this still remains to be discussed. I wonder, Mr Shraeger, if you can enlighten me about exact state of the differences on those four bases, specifically whether there were any agreements on them being shut down or is it possible that Mr Alunan has information that you do not have about something that happened at the last few minutes of the meeting? As he seems to suggest.

[Shraeger] I think I will leave it to him to answer that question, but let me just say, to the best of my ability or to the best of my knowledge, no decision has been made on the disposition of the other facilities.

[Moderator] We shall end this open forum. If you have any further questions, you may ask them directly.

[Shraeger] Can we have one more? I have a quick statement.

[Reporter] Your phasedown proposal on Clark, was the timeframe shorter than the phasedown proposal on Subic?

[Shraeger] We have not gotten down to those specific details at this point. Let me just say in closing that I do appreciate all your [transmission break], I think we will be doing this again in about a month and I look forward to another healthy exchange of views with all of you. Thanks very much.

[Alunan] Thank you for coming and if there is anything that we can do for you, don't hesitate to ask.

Aquino: No Comment on U.S. Access

HK2109051990 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino refused to give any reaction to the U.S. panel's proposal for access by U.S. warships and airplanes to the military facilities after the bases phaseout. According to the president, the proposal should be answered by the Philippine panel. In relation to this, she also refused to make any comments regarding U.S. panel spokesman Stanley Schrager's statement regarding the need for a third round of U.S. bases talks.

U.S. Citizens 'Primary Targets'

HK2109051590 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Communist rebels are supposedly strengthening their forces in Metro Manila in relation to planned attacks of which the primary targets are Americans. According to PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] Chief Major General Cesar Nazareno, they have received reports that New People's Army [NPA] chieftain Romulo Kintanar is in Metro Manila together with other high-ranking NPA officials to supervise the deployment of urban guerrillas in Manila.

Based on a military intelligence report, three groups of NPA Sparrow units arrived in Manila from the Southern Tagalog last week at the same time that negotiations on the future of the bases between the U.S. and the Philippines started.

It is also believed high-ranking communist leaders came to Manila not only to supervise violent activities in the city but also to lead mass actions during the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases talks.

Commentary on U.S. Bases Talks

HK2109130790 Quezon City DZEC Eagle Broadcasting Corporation Radio in Tagalog 0200 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Commentary program by Totoy Talastas—italicized portions in English]

[Text] The present administration is slowly showing its true objective in relation to the ongoing talks on the U.S. military bases. Many on the government side seem to have decided not to continue the presence of the U.S. military bases here. Is it wrong to have a formal plebiscite? I am not saying this on behalf of the Philippine people because I cannot measure the feeling of the whole Philippine nation. What I am saying is that a majority of those on the government side, when the issue pertains to the military bases, seem to have decided to terminate the presence of the American bases here.

But based on their announcements, they are emphasizing the removal of Clark Field and not giving much weight to the removal of Subic Naval Base. So, the naval base could still be negotiable. But as far as the Clark Air Force Base is concerned, I think they are determined on their plan over this.

Now, all I can say is that the present government should study this very carefully because this is not so easy. First is that this is only a plan. There is no bad plan. All plans, when you look at them, are very good. But when it comes to implementation, this is where the problem arises.

The present government has so many plans. And these plans are very good, like we have the land reform. But when the implementation period comes, then the differences arise.

The same is true of the military bases. Don't just look at your plans. Consider the practical side. What is this practical side? For example, let's say that the government decides to remove the American bases from the Philippines. Are we strong enough to adhere to our decision to kick out the military bases here? One may say: If we decide against the bases, why can't the Americans agree?

The problem is not with the Americans. The problem lies with us, my dear listeners. Whatever our decision would be, unless we are united, that decision would be useless. So, what is needed to strengthen any decision we make, the government should work toward a solid front, a solid front on how we would face any reaction by the Americans that could be against us. Because don't forget the saying about the Americans: What America wants, America gets.

Granting that this administration decides to remove the military bases here, do you think the Americans would just sit down and accept the whole thing? They will certainly find a way to get what they want.

Now, what can we apply as an antidote against the Americans, should our wishes be ignored and the Americans insist on theirs. There is only one antidote for this: Our unity.

However, under the present circumstances when we, Filipinos, lack unity, this puts us in a precarious situation. The present government should make efforts to unite us. But what do we see right now? What is the situation now? We are divided. And the thing is we should only be divided on our stand regarding political issues, but should be strongly united when the national interest is at stake. We should forget our differences in our political stands and what should be foremost is our country's interest.

Unfortunately, this is not happening here in our country. Here, the opposite is occurring. For example, during the Marcos regime, he had so many political foes. And just to make Marcos fall, these foes went to the extreme of having themselves used by the foreigners. Why did Marcos fall from power? Because many allowed themselves to be used. Had they not let themselves be used by the Americans, Marcos whould not have fallen. The politicians against Marcos would not have achieved anything had they not had the U.S. blessing.

Now, Marcos is out. That is now part of our history, although that was a sad part of our history. We could no longer bring back those things that need to be corrected and second, Marcos is already dead. Mrs Aquino has now come to power. And whatever our political position is, she is now the president of the Philippines, whether we like it or not.

Now, what we should do is to cooperate with each other. Unfortunately, the situation right now is as bad as that under the Marcos regime or even worse. In what way? If, during the time of Marcos, there were Filipinos willing to be used by the Americans only to be placed in power, the same is true today. If the Americans realize, for example, that everything would become hopeless under the Cory government, when they could no longer get what they want here, they would let go of Cory. We could almost see this happening. Right or wrong, this is the sad truth. If the Americans realize that they can't get what they want from Cory, they would drop her. But would you think that will keep them quiet? No. They will not just drop Cory. They will also find a way to put in power the group of people who they think can deliver their wishes. And they will not have difficulty in locating this kind of people. Filipinos of this kind abound.

So, this would be an unending chain of similar events here, from one president to another. The Americans would install a president and if this president delivers what they want, no matter how we try to oust this president from power, she will not fall. But if this president stops yielding to the Americans, they will find a way to overthrow her so that they can install someone who fits their liking. And if this president would again stop agreeing to their demands, she will also be made to exit.

So, this is what I am saying: What America wants, America gets. If we are divided; if we don't stop being used by the Americans only to be placed in power, the Americans will continue to laugh at us.

Look at Vietnam. Because the Vietnamese people took a united stand, not even an American force was allowed to stay. The problem with us is many are in such a hurry to be placed in power. That is the problem with us. So our country has a dark history.

Today, there are ongoing talks on the U.S. military bases. Their climax will come when the Cory government has come up with a clear-cut decision. We don't know this for sure. This is just a hunch. But on a decision to allow the American bases to stay or not, the Cory government has no decision on this yet.

This is where you can see the difficult situation of President Aquino. Because whatever her decision may be, arriving at this decision would be very difficult for her. For example, if President Cory Aquino's decision would be: *It is time for the Americans to go out, for them to dismantle their military bases.*, the Americans will begin to take actions to overthrow her.

On the other hand, if she decides to retain the U.S. military bases, she would, first of all, lose face. Many will split from her. The cause-oriented groups that initially have been supportive of her would go away from her. Even those who have been close to her and trusted her would because even before they assumed power, they already signed the so-called Declaration of Unity, which outlined their objectives after they assumed power. The Declaration of Unity stated that should they be placed in power, the U.S. military bases should go. Now, what will President Aquino do? This could go either way. What she should do is to find a way. She is walking on a tightrope. She has to keep her balance so that she does not fall to her left or to her right. She should stay in the middle.

Now, we can almost see it. Phaseout. First proposed to be carried out in 10 years. Then a counterproposal seems necessary. I hope it is not 10 years but five. However, be it 10 or five years, *this is in effect an extension of the military bases for another five years, call it by any name, by anything. Call it phaseout* or whatever, but *for all intents and purposes, that is an extension of the military bases in the country, which under the Constitution can be allowed only after a treaty duly ratified by the Senate of both countries.* So, this is the same as extension which is only given another name so as not to make the public angry. But the people will realize this. So, President Aquino should study thoroughly that which is best for our country. I repeat, whatever decision the present government may come up with, whether the U.S. bases stay will be extended or not, there will be an impact on you.

Explosion Near Vice President's Home Reported

OW1609073190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0708 GMT 16 Sep 90

[Text] Manila, Sept. 16 KYODO—A bomb exploded early Sunday at a commercial bank behind the house of Philippines Vice President Salvador Laurel in the Manila suburb of Mandaluyong. The explosion injured a security guard and shattered the banks' windows, police said Sunday.

Sargent Ador Bacarra of the Mandaluyong Police said the bomb exploded at about 5:15 a.m. in front of the Philippine Banking Corporation Building. He said the bomb contained the highly explosive material C-4. He said nobody saw who left the plastic shopping bag which contained the bomb.

"The explosion was so powerful, even the glass windows of the bakery across the street were shattered," Bacarra told KYODO NEWS SERVICE. He said a security guard at a nearby restaurant was slightly injured by shattered glass.

The explosion was the 22nd to hit the capital since military rebels warned August 13 they would launch an offensive against the government of President Corazon Aquino.

Flores Discusses Coup, Efforts To Divide AFP

HK2009035190 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 20 Sep 90 p 8

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] Maj. Gen. [Major General] Guillermo Flores, Philippine Army chief, said yesterday that an "ultra-rightist" group has failed in its recruitment activities and is now resorting to discrediting military officials in an effort to divide the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Reacting to a report that he is going to support the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) in the event of another coup, Flores said, "I had never talked with, and will never talk, to any RAM member, much more about the coup." "If they are really RAM members, they are trying to discredit me," the Army chief said.

Alleged "RAM boys" announced over radio station DZXL that Flores will be on their side when they will stage the seventh coup attempt. The RAM went on the air at the time Sen. [Senator] Wigberto Tanada was being interviewed live by the radio announcer.

The general expressed surprise over how the "RAM boys" were able to go on air, saying he would order an investigation of the incident. DZXL officials said, however, the announcement was confined only to the radio room and was not heard by the people.

Flores said the announcement was a serious allegation and "must be corrected immediately." He said "a soldier has a duty to stand by the Republic, much more an officer."

He said he has been conducting dialogues with Army men and officers and found out that most, if not all soldiers are now agianst any coup. He added that many soldiers are reporting to him moves by RAM members in the military and even submitting to his command letters and propaganda materials being circulated by ultra-righist groups in Army camps. "The Army is more united now than before; I think we have become stronger with the past difficult experiences we had and those taught us a lesson," he said.

In his talks with Army men in the field. Flores stressed the importance of unity and loyalty to the people and government to attain the goals of the country. He said that although most soldiers complain about their low salaries, he explained that "dedication to work and loyalty to the government will make us overcome current hardships."

The Army chief said "the country is experiencing [its] worst crisis in history" and the government needs men it can depend on.

Military, Rebels Agree To Suspend Hostilities

HK1509050590 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 15 Sep 90

[Text] The military high command announced that the government has reached an agreement with rebel groups on the suspension of the military offensive against the New People's Army. According to Acting Chief of Staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon, peace advocates currently engaged in negotiations have informed him that rebel groups have agreed not to carry out any illegal operations against military units covered by the selective cease-fire proposal. One of the agreements reached is the ban on public displays of high calibre guns or weapons.

RAM-SFP Warns Against More Insurgency Problems

HK2109072190 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 21 Sep 90 pp 1, 7

[By F. Taboy and E. Reyes]

[Text] The RAM-SFP [Reform the Armed Forces-Soldiers of the Filipino People] has warned the government against putting trust in the communist rebels' offer for a cease-fire because this would only serve to strengthen the forces of insurgents in the country.

At the same time, the RAM-SFP disclosed that they would only stop the bombings in Metro Manila if the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] would pull out the forces going after former Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Noble in Agusan del Sur.

According to the RAM-SFP spokesman who was instroduced only as "222," their group was ready to fulfill the agreements for a cease-fire if the government would first pull out its forces against Noble. "222" futher added that the bombings conducted by the RAM-SFP were equivalent only to the operations undertaken against Noble.

This was a reaction by the rebel soldiers to AFP vice chief of staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon who stated he was ready to talk to the rebel soldiers if the RAM-SFP would stop the bombings.

According to the RAM-SFP, the government should not believe the self-declared cease-fire made by communist rebels because only the rebels would benefit more by strengthening their forces.

Based on statistics of the RAM-SFP, the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA] strength decreased by 45 percent as a result of the capture and killings of many of its officials. The remaining 55 percent of the CPP-NPA are unable to take action because their forces have been divided.

For his part, Senator Wigberto Tanada said in order for the country to attain nationwide peace, the sincerity of all forces, the government, and other rebel groups is needed. In his speech to the Rotary Club of Makati West, Tanada said many representatives of the different parties were questioning the sincerity of the other parties involved.

According to him, the government must prove its sincerity and its moral responsibility to end the discord of politics in the country.

"The government and the warring factions, including all sectors of society must take the initiative to form a humane and mass-based government agenda for government progress. We must continue with the belief that we shall be able to find ways to achieve our dream of peace," he said.

Drilon Rejects CPP-NPA Demands on Dialogue

HK1409150590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] The multisectoral consultation meeting was held today to discuss the crisis confronting the country. Although no concrete measures were drawn up because of the large number of issues taken up during the two-hour meeting, it was agreed that different committees will be formed to tackle each issue.

Attending the meeting were representatives from the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the media, church, cause-oriented groups, youth groups, and even the legislature.

Speaking at an interview after the meeting, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon rejected the conditions put forward by the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] in response to the selective cessation of hostilities by the government. According to Drilon, the NPA was not in a position to put down its own conditions. The CPP-NPA-NDF [National Democratic Front] demanded the holding of a national dialogue which would include the Reform the Armed Forces Movement and the Moro National Liberation Front.

Drilon Questions Sison's Authority on Talks

HK1409151590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Senator Wigberto Tanada would like the couple Carolina and Satur Ocampo temporarily released from detention so they may take part in peace negotiations. Meanwhile, Ed Garcia of the Peace Commission reported they have received calls for regional peace dialogues. All that is needed now is for the people to take action to achieve the realization of peace.

On the other hand, Congressman Bonifacio Gillego said they have decided not to include peace talks with the RAM-SFP [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People] in the priority list because they continue to commit acts of violence.

In a related development, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon this afternoon questioned the authority of Jose Maria Sison to issue statements on the proposed peace talks. Secretary Drilon, chairman of the government panel handling the peace talks, stated peace advocates should determine who is really authorized to represent the CPP-NDF [Communist Party of the Philippines-National Democratic Front] in peace negotiations. Drilon also said the government was put in a very uncomfortable position when the exiled NDF-CPP chairman issued a statement dismissing the proposed peace talks and ordering a renewed offensive against the government.

Drilon stressed that Sison's statement contradicted the NDF's declaration yesterday, which urged the government to conduct a national dialogue to discuss national issues such as land reform, foreign debt, and the U.S. bases.

Earlier, the Armed Forces of the Philippines asserted that only CPP leaders and not NDF representatives should take part in the talks. Dialogues on the peace talks will resume next week and will discuss ways to bring about the proposed peace talks.

Sison Changes Stand on Peace Efforts

HK1909031390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 19 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] In an apparent turnaround from his earlier position, Jose Ma. Sison, the exiled founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] yesterday endorsed the peace talks proposal between the government and the armed Left. Sison, from his exile in Utrecht, the Netherlands, was interviewed over radio station DZRH together with Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Ramberto Saavedra, chief of the Armed Forces civil relations service.

Sison however did not explain his new moderate stance, nor say whether he was expressing the official views of the CPP. A few weeks ago he told an audience in Amsterdam that the Filipinos should launch "powerful mass actions and other forms of offensives" against the government as a response to the peace talks proposal. He had described the government's ceasefire initiative as "rhetorical...with the calculated objective of defusing the explosive situation and riding out the crisis."

Softening his attitude, Sison said he now sees the National Democratic Front [NDF] "as being prepared to enter even into a limited ceasefire with the government so long as this is within the direction of a comprehensive settlement."

The NDF is the political umbrella organization of the underground Left which counts the CPP and NPA [New People's Army] as members.

Sison denied the military's claim that he had reasumed the CPP chairmanship. "That is just the military's speculation. It is without basis," he said.

Challenging Sison's sincerity, Saavedra said the CPP leader should abide by democratic principles and renounce the use of violence and terrorism. He also dared the exiled rebel leader to come home and debate with him on the issue of peace at Plaza Miranda "to clear once and for all who is telling the truth."

Sison asserted that he could not return to the country because his passport had been revoked. He did not comment on the proposal to legalize the CPP. But he said the "progressive forces" were in favor of elections. "We need to have electoral reforms. But we need to discuss substantive issues such as United States, including Japanese, domination."

Aquino Reacts to Talks Decision

HK1909092990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Report by Vic Pambuan from Malacanang]

[Text] President Aquino has expressed her approval regarding CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] chairman Jose Maria Sison's decision to negotiate with the government for peace talks. In her press statement, the president said the government has already set up a group that would be in charge of discussions with the government's foes through peaceful means. The president also said Cluster E [a group of cabinet ministers focusing on political and security matters] first needed to closely study Sison's offer so there would not be a repetition of the failure of the first peace talks launched in 1986.

The president also decided to continue suspending military offensive operations in earthquake-stricken areas so the government can speed up its rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts without encountering any problems.

Sison's Conditions for Heading Peace Talks

HK2009112190 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Communist leader Jose Maria Sison said that the National Democratic Front is now prepared for any peace negotiation. According to Sison, he is willing to head his group in the negotiations, provided his passport is returned and the government ensures his security during the peace talks.

Sison's Offer To Mediate Rejected

HK2109050390 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 21 Sep 90 p 12

[Text] The return to the country of exiled Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) chairman Jose Ma. Sison to act as intermediary on bahalf of the communist groups in the proposed peace talks between Government and communist groups met strong opposition yesterday from high-ranking members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Top military sources from Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City made this pronouncement despite a recent claim by the former head of the Communist Party that he no longer controls the leadership of the CPP and that the AFP's claim of his having been reinstated as party chairman of the CPP is baseless.

At present, there is a struggle for power within the ranks of the CPP and the proposal for Mr Sison to act as an intermediary "might be protested by other heads of communist groups" within the CPP-NPA- [New Peoples Army]-NDF [National Democratic Front], explained Secretary Fidel V. Ramos.

Doubtful

Armed Forces vice-chief of staff Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon echoed this claim during a press forum earlier this week by saying that he, too, was doubtful that the exiled communist leader had a genuine interest in the peace proposal due to his recent statement that indicated the failure of the Government's peace proposal.

AFP Public Information Officer Chief Col. Juanito R. Rimando added that although there exists a difficulty on the part of the AFP hierarchy to determine the authenticity of the communist rebels' side due to their inability to pinpoint the real spokesman of the CPP and other corresponding organizations, the inclusion of Mr Sison into the picture has not been seriously considered.

Allowing the return of the exiled CPP chairman is definitely out of the question, not to mention the additional problems that may arise like the uncertainty of Mr Sison being issued the proper travel documents, said Col. Rimando.

Peace Panel Decides on Montoring Committee

HK1909093790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] The multisectoral peace panel has decided upon the formation of a five-member monitoring committee to monitor the peace situation in selected areas in the country. Press Secretry Tomas Gomez III said the committee will be organized with the help of the church and other sectors of society.

Senator Wigberto Tanada, meanwhile, proposed the inclusion in the peace zones of four more Northern Luzon provinces affected by the earthquake.

Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa said the proposal by six retired generals to intercede for the rebel soldiers has been presented by President Aquino to the Cabinet Cluster E [members focusing on political and security matters] for further study.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos reported the government has prepared its programs on rehabilitation, development, and amnesty for all rebel groups wishing to return to the fold of the law.

Let us listen to the separate statements by Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III, Senator Tanada, Chief of Staff De Villa, and Secretary Ramos:

[Begin recording in English] [Gomez] That a five-person monitoring committee be formed by local government authority in partnership with the churches, assuming that the members are mutually acceptable to all sectors.

A representative group of the panel that met this morning has been tasked to visit the provinces involved and brief the local authority of the processes being undertaken here in Manila.

[Tanada] We are pushing for the inclusion of Ifugao, Abra, Nueva Ecija, and Pangasinan.

[De Villa] I do believe that the president has already responded and has given the problem to the Cluster E committee of the cabinet and as I understood it, this will be discussed in the Cluster E committee of the cabinet.

[Ramos] All of their initiatives and programs are already in place. Of course, you know that in regard to amnesty, that must now be the joint action of the president and congress. [end recording]

Salonga Wants Laurel, Enrile Included in Panel

HK2009035390 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 20 Sep 90 p 12

[By Cris V. Paraso]

[Text] Senate President Jovito R. Salonga asked President Aquino yesterday to include in her multisectoral council the leaders of the Opposition, namely Vice President Salvador H. Laurel and Senate Minority Leader Juan Ponce Enrile, the Nacionalista Party's president and secretary-general, respectively.

Speaking before the Integrated Bar of the Philippines' Law Day at the Manila Hotel, Sen. Salonga said the Malacanang-initiated multisectoral consultation should also include cause-oriented groups, sectoral and multisectoral organizations and all armed groups from both the Left and the Right. "I suggest that the consultations be broadened so as to include the principal figures of the political opposition, including Vice-President Laurel, Sen. Enrile, cause-oriented organizations and all armed groups," maintained the Rizal solon.

Reciting the crises currently facing the country from political instability to economic depression, he called on the nation to "rise above our own personal interest and push for a program of national survival."

Sen. Salonga said political stability should first be established to ensure economic recovery.

He added that the current peace initiatives are encouraging, but noted that there should first be "low-key spade work" that will consider discussions with "people that really matter to speak either in person or during the preliminary stage through their chosen representatives."

He also pointed out the importance of confidence-building between Government and anti-Administration forces. "We can disagree without being disagreeable, we can differ without being difficult. We can disagree as much as we can provided we agree to resolve our disagreement through peaceful, democratic means," said Sen. Salonga.

Government Rules Out Nationwide Cease-Fire

HK2009032190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 20 Sep 90 p 8

[Excerpts] The government has ruled out holding nationwide ceasefire talks with communist insurgents. Instead, Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III said yesterday the government will leave the peace groups and local government officials to initiate dialogues with insurgents on the local level. Gomez explained this position following the meeting yesterday of the Cabinet cluster on national security and nongovernment peace groups.

In a press briefing, Gomez said the government is not even considering an agenda for nationwide ceasefire talks to match the proposals earlier made by the National Democratic Front (NDF) and other leftist groups. "There is no need to do that," he said, explaining that the government, in its order to suspend military offensives in earthquake-ravaged areas, was only responding to the NDF's unilateral declaration and that "there are no negotiations as of now." [passage omitted]

Regarding the holding of peace talks with rightist rebels, acting Armed Forces chief of staff Maj. Gen. [Major General] Rodolfo Biazon said bombings in Metro Manila and other parts of the country must first be stopped. "How can you establish sincerity for anyone to talk peace when at the same time they are committing acts of violence," Biazon asked.

In Camp Crame, detained right-wing leaders wanted the Aquino government to first show its sincerity before they would agree for a peace dialogue.

Army Capt. [Captain] Danilo Lim, a former Scout Ranger who led 400 soldiers in occupying highrise buildings in Makati during the failed December 1989 coup, wanted the government to release all detained soldiers without formal charges as a condition for any peace negotiations. The condition was discussed by the rebel soldiers in a meeting Tuesday with peace proponents

Sen. [Senator] Wigberto Tandad and Rep. [Representative] Bonifacio Gillego at the PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] stockade.

National Democratic Front Ready for Peace Talks

HK2109050190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Sep 90 p 8

[By Cherry Velarde]

[Text] The National Democratic Front [NDF]—the political arm of the Communist Party—is prepared to deputize its former negotiators if the proposed peace talks push through.

This was revealed yesterday by ex-Communist Party chief Rodolfo Salas in an interview at the Manila Regional Trial Court where he is being tried for rebellion. He was captured four years ago along with his wife Josefina Cruz and their driver Jose Concepcion.

In a handwritten note to the Chronicle, he said: "We have received messages from outside that the NDF intends to include the 1986 NDF panel (Satur Ocampo, Tony Zumel, Bobbie Malay and Rodolfo Salas) if the new peace effort prospers and moves towards direct and official talks."

He said he would actively take part in the peace efforts, "even if the possibility may be remote or the obstacles insurmountable."

Salas took issue with the government's claim that leftist rebels do not have one voice regarding the peace issue.

"Statements coming from the NDF and other leaders are generally consistent; peace is desired," he said.

Meanwhile, a CHRONICLE source said Rep. Jose Yap, the House chairman on national defense, will leave for the Netherlands next week to discuss with exiled party founder Jose Ma. Sison the mechanics of the proposed peace talks.

The meeting, the source said, is part of "discreet moves" by both the armed left and the government to finally strike a peace agreement now that peace efforts are showing promising signs. The source did not elaborate further.

This development followed President Aquino's declaration that the government is willing to negotiate peace directly with leftist rebels and Sison's reversal of his opposition to peace talks.

Salas said the government's claim that it had struck an agreement only with peace advocates and not with the leftist rebels was "very deceiving."

"The military should be ones to identify those in the (leftist) hierarchy. They should know who are these people; it's their job," he said.

Asked about Antonio Zumel, said to be the new NDF chief, Salas said he is "probably" in the country. There were previous reports that Zumel fled to Europe using a fake passport.

Taking a different line, Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos said the government will only allow Sison to join in any peace initiative if he can prove he is in full control of all New People's Army forces in the country.

"Maybe if he can show his credentials properly, there would be a more positive response," Ramos told a weekly press briefing at Camp Aguinaldo.

Als yesterday, the Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates [PAHRA] urged the immediate release of all political detainees as a precondition for the peace talks.

The agenda was drawn up by Pahra secretary-general Mercedes Contreras in consultation with affiliated organizations and was based on the premise that the roots of war were deeper than mere ideology.

Pahra, she said, favors the repeal of all oppressive laws and decrees as well as the abandonment of the government's "total war policy."

Provinces Peace Initiatives 'Gaining Support'

HK2109045790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 Sep 90 p 1

[By Roy C. Sinfuego]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said yesterday that peace initiatives in the provinces are gaining support from various segments of society and could result in genuine peace in some localities.

Ramos also told a press conference held at Camp Aguinaldo that communist leader Jose Ma. Sison, who is now living in self exile abroad, must now have himself accredited with the National Democratic Front-Communist Party of the Philippines (NDF-CPP) if he wants to participate in any future peace talks.

The defense chief expressed doubts about Sison's present position in the NDF-CPP, saying other leaders may now be contesting his position in the hierarchy.

He cited the existing power struggle within the CPP-New People's army and "so many are claiming to be the spokesman of the party."

On the peace initiatives in the provinces, Ramos said that the peace effort is gaining support among local officials, church leaders and the citizenry in Naga City, Camarines Sur.

He said the same effort also gaining acceptance in Mindanao, particularly in Tulunan, Cotabato, and that the local military command was taking the lead in seeking the support of local government and community leaders.

Ramos also said there are continuing efforts to further solidify the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) with the assistance of retired military generals, the AFP chief of staff and the Department of National Defense (DND) since 1986.

He mentioned those involved in the unification process were the PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY (PMA) Alumni Association headed by retired colonel Juanito Ferrer, Class '44, and Brig. Gen. Lisandro Abadia as well as other PMA class organizations and informal institutions in the military community.

Former Colonel Noble 'Trapped' in Agusan Town

HK1709061590 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] The military will conclude operations against former Army Colonel Alexander Noble and his followers after it was confirmed the rebels are now trapped in two barangays in the town of Esperanza, Agusan del Sur. This was reported by Major General Manuel Dizon, Southern Command chief, to Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos. According to Dizon, Noble and his men cannot get away from barangays Maasin and Sinakungan because of unfamiliarity with the area. Earlier, government troopers raided the former hideout of Noble, forcing him and his men to escape to the two barangays.

Dizon also reported that Noble's followers, all Higaonon tribesmen from barangay Sulog, have run out of food and supplies. He stressed government troopers continue to keep watch on possible hideouts for Noble. He added they were always prepared for any surprise attack by the rebels.

Military To Launch 'Offensive' Against Noble

HK1909092790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] The military is set to launch a strong offensive against renegade Colonel Alexander Noble believed to be hiding out in Barangay Sinakungan, Esperanza, Agusan del Sur. This was announced by 4th Infantry Division Commander General Miguel Sol during talks with Senate Defense Committee Chairman Senator Ernesto Maceda who visited the area.

Military leaders said they believe Noble is still in Agusan. On the other hand, Senator Maceda believes that if the military still fails to capture Noble within 60 days, then government forces should just retreat and instead focus their attention against the NPA [New People's Army] rebels. According to Maceda, the battle of the two forces in Agusan has only brought about dislocation to more than 60,000 citizens caught between the warring forces.

Communists Oppose German Project in Bondoc

HK1709035790 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 17 Sep 90 p 8

[By Dennis Maliwanag]

[Text] If West Germany pursues its development project in the Bondoc Penisula, it will appear that it is conspiring with the government's anti-insurgency campaign.

This was stated by Gregorio Rosal, alias Comrade Roger, the New People's Army [NPA] spokesman for Southern Tagalog, in a two-way radio interview with newsmen in Lucena city recently. According to Rosal, the development project in Bondoc does not provide any benefit for the people. "Instead, this will only be used in the anti-insurgency campaign by the Aquino government", he added. "If West Germany pushes through with this project, it will be conspiring with the Aquino government," the spokesman for the Melito Glor Command explained.

Rosal also said the 420-million-peso project has already started despite the nonenforcement of the three conditions set by West Germany.

In early June, the West German Parliament said there should first be genuine land reform, peace and order, and participation by Bondoc Peninsula residents before the project, estimated to last for 10 to 15 years, could proceed. It is expected that the project, which is now in the orientation stage, will provide general services to the public.

Rosal said he had long expressed his opposition to the project, saying he has sent two official letters to West Germany. "But we have not received any official response to the official messages we sent them.", he added.

Meanwhile, the chief of the Quezon Constabulary, Lieutenant Colonel Rex Piad, announced a resolution by the Peace and Order Council for Southern Tagalog stating that Quezon Province had been chosen as the test area for the new plan against insurgency. Piad said that the plan is centered on the delivery of general services to remote barangays strongly influenced by the NPA.

Philippine Constabulary Takes Two NPA Camps

HK2109045990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 Sep 90 p 8

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Ilagan, Isabela—Two New People's Army (NPA) camps were taken by elements of the 112nd and 133rd PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] company as troops recovered high-powered guns and a five-ton vehicle used for transporting foods and rebels in a forested area in Palanan, Isabela.

Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Clyde Fernandez, Isabela PC-INP commander, told Col. Miguel Fontanilla, Recom [Regional Command] 2 PC-INP chief, that he organized four teams after he received reports of armed men in the area.

While his men were approaching the rebel camps, they were fired upon. Troops returned the fire. The clash lasted 10 minutes. The NPAs withdrew leaving behind their guns, while the dead and the wounded were carried by the rebels. Troops found bloodstains in the escape route of the rebels toward Maconacon.

The camps had complete training facilities-quarters, and medicine, including 16 bottles of dextrose and a sphygmomanometer for taking blood pressure, a TV sets, and a Betamax machine. Assorted firearms and ammunitions were also recovered, together with the map of Isabela and the neighboring provinces of Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino, and Cagayan.

The other camp taken by the Isabela PC-INP yielded food supplies, quarters of NPA officers, and lecture rooms. It is 12 kilometers from the camp where the clash broke out. The second camp had a tower that could spot incoming troops of the government. The tower had wire connecting their radio that serves as antennae of the rebel communications. The radio set was carried by the NPA, but some wire and parts were left behind when they fled toward Maconacon.

Military in Zamboanga Placed on 'Red Alert'

HK1509090990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Sep 90

[Text] The military in Zamboanga city has been placed on red alert again following intelligence reports claiming the chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF], Nur Misuari, is expected to arrive in Mindanao. According to Regional Command [Recom] 9 chief, Colonel Reynaldo Tanggapa, while the intelligence reports did not specify Misuari's alleged landing point, the information cannot be disregarded by the military, especially as they have learned that Misuari is to be accompanied by his top commanders on his return to Mindanao.

The same reports said that Misuari's return was prompted by his disappointment over the Islamic Conference Organization's failure to take up the MNLF's application for membership in its meeting in Cairo, Egypt.

Colonel Tanggapa also said sightings of MNLF and Moro Islamic Liberation Front fighters, and New People's Army personnel, have been reported in the Zamboanga peninsula. He added the authorities cannot ignore such reports.

Labor Groups Unified in Press for Wage Raise

HK1909065590 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 19 Sep 90 p 1, 7

[By Arnold E. Belleza]

[Text] In an unusual show of unity, organized labor told the press yesterday it would press for a floor wage increase of P [peso] 38.13 daily once prices of petroleum products are increased.

The nation's two largest labor federations, the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) and the Labor Advisory Consultative Council (LACC), together with their affiliate unions reached consensus in a meeting yesterday at the National Press Club. Even the militant Kilusang Mayo Uno [First May Movement—KMU] (an LACC) affiliate), which initially protested having to demand wage hikes and instead called for the abolition of the oil taxing scheme, ended up expressing support for the move.

TUCP vice-president Aurelio Valeriano said the wage hike "should be across the board, and retroactive to the day oil prices are increased." Organized labor, he said, "is vehemently against any oil price hike," adding that mass actions are imminent once Government fails to act on their demands. KMU-National Capital Region Chairman Leto Villar specifically warned of a national work stoppage or a "Welgang Bayan" [National Strike] once Government fails to acknowledge the plight of labor.

However, Federation of Free Workers Chairman (also affiliated with the LACC) Felicisimo Joson qualified that "although massive concerted actions will be made by organized labor, we will not let this action be a reason for any of our member unions to take advantage of." He did not elaborate.

The P38.13 proposal was originally presented by the Lakas Manggagawa Labor Center (LMLC), an LACC affiliate, in a wage petition presented before the NATIONAL WAGES and PRODUCTIVITY CENTER [CNWPC] (see BUSINESS WORLD, September 7).

Wage Erosions

The LMLC argued that, based on the 1989 inflation rate of 10.55% multiplied against the effective minimum wage of P96.42 (RA [Republic Act] 6727's P89 plus 13th to 15th month pay), wages slipped by P10.17 in 1989.

With the June 1990 inflation rate of 14% and a projected inflation rate for the rest of the year of 15%, the effective minimum wage multiplied against these figures show wage erosions of P13.50 and P14.46 respectively for this year.

Added up, these successive wage erosions total P38.13, and both the TUCP and the LACC proposed that Congress should act immediately on the demanded increase which, they pointed out, does not even cover the quantified effects of an increase in oil prices.

Wage petitions are to be handled by the NWPC, but organized labor also demanded its abolition. "The NWPC is ineffective....only P50,000 of the P1 million budget for each regional wage board has been released up to now," Mr. Valeriano said. Thus, Congress itself should take the initiative, they contended.

Nationalization

In addition to the wage hike, organized labor retierated earlier demands for the nationalization of the oil industry, beginning with the centralized procurement of oil. Other demands raised were moratoriums on additional taxes on oil and on the nation's sizeable foreign debt.

With regards to employers' natural opposition to wage increases, Mr. Joson remarked: "Oras na para bawasan nila ang tubo nila. Ang problema kasi nila, gusto nilang nami-maintain sa isang level ang kanilang profits." (It's time employers lessened their profits. Their problem is that they want their profits kept at a fixed level.)

Forum Argues Against Oil Price Raise

HK1309075590 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 13 Sep 90 p 12

[By Cris V. Paraso]

[Text] In a show of unity, political, business, labor and cause-oriented groups yesterday agreed in principle to draw up crises-alleviation schemes, including asking Government to share the burden of an imminent oil price increase.

Emerging from the initial gathering of the Citizens' Crisis Forum, Vice-President Salvador H. Laurel said a resolution is being drafted by a committee composed of Senator Vicente T. Paterno, former Labor minister Blas Ople, Piston [United Organization of Drivers Nationwide] president Medardo Roda and Meneleo Carlos, industry group chairman of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which would touch on continuing similar multisectoral dialogues, displaced Middle East workers, insurgency, oil crisis, and the national budget, among others.

With the impending oil price hike, Mr. Laurel noted the resolution will consider Government's role in cushioning the oil price increase's impact, adding that the burden should not be borne alone by the consumers. "We should be ready to bite the bullet on certain hard decisions that the Government should take. Like we should decide whether we have to do away with oil tax or have some cuts in our budget (and) eliminate some unnecessary expenses that can wait," said the Vice- President.

Mr. Laurel said the proposed resolution's thrust would encourage constant discussion on issues affecting the country "because perhaps this is the key to national reconciliation and national unity."

Other matters

The consulations will also touch on the status of earthquake rehabilitation efforts.

The forum's recommendations, he said, will be submitted to President Aquino.

Sen. Paterno, Senate economic affairs committee chairman, said there is need for Government to support an oil price increase so that the public is not unduly burdened with the same.

Political personalities who attended the gathering were Senators Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr., Orlando S. Mercado, Senate President Pro Tempore Sotero H. Laurel, Paterno, Minority Leader Juan Ponce Enrile, Reps. Salvador Escudero III of Sorsogon, Virgilio Robles of Kalookan and Milagros Laurel-Trinidad of Batangas.

Also present were Office of Energy Affairs deputy executive director Benhur Salcedo, former Education minister Salvador Lopez, former Budget Ministers Jaime Laya and Manuel Alba and ACTO [expansion unknown] President Bonifacio de Luna.

ERB To Take Charge of Oil Price Increase

HK2009091090 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Report by Vic Pambuan from Malacanang]

[Text] President Aquino confirmed today that the government was ready to face all mass protest actions set to take place once the Energy Regulatory Board [ERB] decides to raise oil prices. The president said that she has left it up to the ERB to give the go signal for the oil price increase because the ERB is still currently studying the petitions given out by oil companies as to how much the increase will be per liter of gasoline. The president added she was hopeful the price increase would take place after Republic Act 6965, which she signed the other day, takes effect. She further added that the government was closely studying how the public would respond and adjust when a notice on oil prices was given; one step was to change to a specific tax system. According to the president, the ERB was studying the timing and amount of increase so as not to burden the public too much. Here are the president's pronouncements, made through her Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III.

[Begin Gomez recording in English] It is now up to the Energy Regulatory Board to decide in connection with the pending petitions of the oil companies for price increases taking into account the effect of Republic Act 6965 by way of mitigating the price increases. It is the responsibility of the government to level with the people. For this reason, we have kept underscoring the pressing need to respond and adjust to the changes brought about by the Gulf crisis. The specifics of the issue, including timing and amount of increases pending before the ERB, are just one of such factors. [end recording]

Iraq Agrees To Entry of Philippine Vessels

HK1509092190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Sep 90

[Text] Iraq has agreed to allow entry of Philippine ships and aircraft into its territory on humanitarian grounds. The Philippine vessels will deliver food, medicine, and other materials needed by Filipinos in Iraq and bring the stranded Filipinos home.

According to the Department of Foreign Affairs, Iraq's favorable response was the result of representations and contacts made by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus.

It will be recalled that the Philippine Ambassador to the United Nations Sedfrey Ordonez stated the government is confronted by two problems arising from the Gulf crisis: One is how to speed up evacuation of Philippine nationals given the limited financial resources, and the other is the feeding and lodging of these evacuees. However, the Department of Foreign Affairs reported the problems have been resolved.

Muslims Rally Against Iraqi Invasion of Kuwait

HK2009141390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] About 20,000 Filipino Muslims held a rally in Marawi in protest against the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq. The demonstrators were headed by local officials, Muslim religious leaders, and Muslim businessmen. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is allegedly an oppressor and an enemy of the world.

According to acting Lanao del Sur Governor Adudin Alauya, the Iraqi invasion halted the arrival of a regular fund sent by Kuwait for public projects in Marawi.

Countries Pledge Millions for Assistance Program

HK2109045590 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 21 Sep 90 p 1

[By Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] Donor countries and multilateral organizations have initially pledged a total of $630 million for the PHILIPPINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM'S [PAP] next pledging session, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS [DPWH] Secretary Fiorello Estuar told reporters yesterday.

These pledges were largely aimed at the country's earthquake repair and rehabilitation efforts and emerged after the ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK'S [ADB] damage assessment presentation at a meeting, yesterday of representaives of various donor countries and multilateral agencies at the Philippine International Convention Center.

According to the ADB assessment, repair and construction costs for earthquake-related damage amounted to P9.02 billion [9.02 billion Philippine Pesos] at "today's prices." The total does not include damage as estimated by the National Power Corporation (P346 million), the National Electrification Administration (P110 million) and the Department of National Defense (P140 million) to their respective facilities.

However, the DPWH noted that the ADB's assessments did not consider damage to private housing (P3.9 billion) and differed from the DPWH's estimates for infrastructure repair because the consultants apparently preferred constructing alternative routes rather than restoring damaged roads. These items included, the damage reconstruction would necessitate some P14.5 billion.

Of the amount pledged, the World Bank put up $125 million and Japan, the U.S. the European Community and the ADB together account for $205 million. Other bilateral donors are coming through with the balance of $300 million.

A foreign diplomat told BUSINESS WORLD that the country did not effectively utilize the propaganda effect of film footages of the quake damage. "There are a lot of people all over the world who do not have a real grasp of the dramatic damage which took place here," he said.

Thailand

Cambodia Stand on SNC Chairmanship Questioned

BK2009103190 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 19 Sep 90

["Special Article": "Road to Peace in Cambodia Is Pending"]

[Excerpts] A flurry of regional diplomatic activities in recent weeks have given to rise to optimism that the protracted Cambodian conflict will at long last draw to an end. According to informed diplomatic sources, a high-powered Vietnamese delegation led by Communist Party Secretary General Nguyen Van Linh paid an unprecedented and little publicized visit to Beijing in early September, when they struck a deal with the Chinese leadership on a specific framework of a comprehensive settlement of Cambodia reportedly as a stepping stone toward normalized relations between these two communist arch rivals. The agreement is understood to have help achieved a breakthrough at the recent Jakarta meeting where the rival Khmer factions accepted the so-called Permanent Five Resolution, one of the highlights of which was the creation of the Supreme National Council, or SNC.

After 9 September, everything after the Jakarta meeting in early September looked so nice, and the accomplishment to peace in Cambodia is not so far away at that moment. But this week's Bangkok meeting, started on Monday, 17 September, was expected to bring the success on the issue of the SNC chairmanship, which Prince Norodom Sihanouk was expected to be invited to join as the 13th member of the SNC and at the same time be the chairman of the SNC too. The other expected success from the Bangkok [meeting] was the appointment of the Cambodian delegation to the United Nations [General Assembly], which started on Tuesday.

Surprisingly, both issues had been adjourned. No agreement has been reached despite high expectation of success after the fruitful outcome of the Jakarta meeting. The first SNC, which was held this week in Bangkok, ended today with verbal assaults between again the Phnom Penh regime and the Khmer Rouge. The two rival parties in Cambodian Supreme National Council, met on the third days of talks, still failed to settle their dispute over Prince Sihanouk's role and Phnom Penh's demand for a fitting role in the body. [Neither] the resistance nor Phnom Penh has softened their demand despite the fact that the negotiations were originally scheduled to culminate in a formal session with a statement at the newly reopened Cambodian embassy yesterday. Hun Sen said at the press conference this morning that he accepted Prince Sihanouk as the chairman of the SNC but only he was to be the 12th member, while the resistance which included the Khmer Rouge strongly insisted on the agreement of the Permanent Five and the Jakarta meeting that the chairman of the SNC would be and only be Prince Sihanouk and he would be the 13th member of the SNC.

Hun Sen, at the press conference proposed the two options. One was to abandon Prince Sihanouk from the SNC, or two, if the resistance wanted to give the prince, he would be included in the 12 members of the SNC. However, Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, at the press conference following Hun Sen, said Hun Sen's disagreement of the number of the SNC members was just a tactic. As a matter of fact, the regime wanted to exclude Prince Sihanouk out of the system forever.

No matter if it is true, the difference of the two sides over the chairmanship issue successfully obstructed the outcome of the Bangkok meeting. One reporter wonders why the number of SNC is so important to [make] the first SNC fell in limbo. The question is no matter how many SNC members, SNC decision making has to be in consensus. But Khieu Samphan said the point was that no party could change the principle of the agreement made between the Permanent Five and which the four main factions in Jakarta. [sentence as heard]

To remind, we would like to raise the conclusion of the Permanent Five made after their 2-day meeting in New York on 28 August. [passage omitted]

Furthermore, in Jakarta joint statement, it said that the Cambodian parties further agreed to accept Prince Sihanouk's proposal as contained in his statement of 8 September that if the 12 members of the SNC so desire, they could elect chairman of the SNC, who would in such case be the 13th member of the SNC.

According to the joint communique, there should not be any further questions of numbers of the SNC. It was understood that Prince Norodom Sihanouk would be the 13th member of the SNC and hold the SNC chairmanship. It is very unfortunate that one of the Khmer factions, the Phnom Penh regime, tried to change the plan and interpreted the joint agreement in its own meaning in the last minute. It is beyond the point of who should be blamed, but it is rather disappointing that a road to peace in Cambodia once more has been taken away because of differences that still remain among the regime and the resistance.

Officials Say U.S. Trade Concessions 'Helpful'

BK2009053190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Sep 90 B1

[By Peter Maitri Ungphakon]

[Text] Concessions by the United States and Canada on textiles trade liberalization at last week's meeting of Asia-Pacific trade ministers were helpful in nudging deadlocked global trade negotiations towards a possible conclusion later this year, senior Thai officials said yesterday.

Phatchara Itsrasena, Commerce Ministry permanent secretary, described the meeting of 12 ministers from the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group as having made "some progress" on the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. But some major issues remain unresolved even among APEC's own members, he said. And Thailand came under the heaviest criticism from the developed country members of APEC for charging high import duty rates and for failing to "bind" rates under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), a measure that normally makes raising duty rates extremely difficult.

The meeting of APEC trade ministers in Vancouver last week was called specifically to try to iron out some of the differences in the 3 1/2-year-old GATT talks, now in their critical final months.

ASEAN, whose six members comprise half of APEC, used the opportunity to further consolidate their common stand on the Uruguay Round and to press for greater flexibility from the richer members of the group—Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States—in opening up their markets to textiles and agricultural products.

The most significant steps achieved last week were agreement by the United States and Canada to reconsider their controversial proposals for phasing out the quotas that for 30 years have restricted trade in textiles and clothing, Phatchara said. For the first time ever, he noted, the two North American countries have agreed on paper that 10 years would be "a reasonable transitional period" for phasing out the quotas of the Multifibre Arrangements (MFA). The two delegations also showed a willingness to drop their insistence that during the transition towards free trade, importing countries should replace the present quotas that apply to specific suppliers with "global quotas" which would apply to all suppliers and a wider range of products.

In the final communique of the APEC meeting, the two countries said they were "willing to explore seriously" whether the gradual enlargement of country-specific quotas into liberalized trade could "deal in an equitable way with the concerns of participants in respect of import surges, new suppliers, growth rates and flexibility provisions". All of the other active participants in the Uruguay Round textiles talks oppose global quotas, preferring a transition arrangement based on country-specific quotas.

Several months ago Thai and other officials suggested in private that a shift in the US-Canadian position could take place in mid-September. They predicted that protectionist pressure on the US government could ease this month if President George Bush is able to veto the tough textiles bill currently in Congress.

Votes in the Senate recently and in the House of Representatives on Monday suggest that although the majority of US lawmakers are in favour of tighter curbs on clothing and footwear imports, the two-thirds needed to override a presidential veto still cannot be mustered, Phatchara and Kroekkrai Chiraphaet, deputy director general of the Foreign Trade Department, predicted yesterday.

On agriculture, Phatchara noted some increased flexibility from Japan and South Korea who are resisting efforts by the ten other members of APEC to secure an Uruguay Round agreement to liberalize the trade in farm products.

The Japanese and Koreans, who argue protection is needed in the interests of food security, are at least now willing to discuss whether food security could be maintained even if imports are increased, Phatchara said.

The developed country members of APEC were particualrly critical of what they considered to be ASEAN's reluctance to lower tariff rates and to set ceilings for the rates by binding them under GATT.

Sukhon Kanchanalai, director general of the Business Economics Department, said the United States distributed papers showing that Thailand, with average tariff rates of 35.7 percent and only 1.5 percent of its imports charged bound duties, is the most protectionist among APEC's 12 members. By comparison, tariff bindings cover 32.3 percent of Indonesian imports which are charged average duty rates of 20.3 percent, while Malaysian average duty rate is only 9.5 percent. Almost 100 percent of US and Canadian imports enjoy tariff bindings, with duty rates averaging 5-9 percent.

Sukhon said that in Uruguay Round tariff reduction talks underway in Geneva this week Thailand has improved the reductions it is offering other GATT members. She said that about 1,700 products would be affected, that rates currently above 40 percent would be bound at 40 percent if the reductions are offered voluntarily by Thailand and that if other participants have requested specific cuts from Thailand the rates could be trimmed by a third provided the bound rate does not drop below 30 percent.

Government To Protest U.S. 'Trade Retaliation'

BK2109014790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Sep 90 p 17

[Text] Thailand will lodge a protest with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade against the United States' move to list the Kingdom as a target for trade retaliation in an attempt to force open the local cigarette market.

Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsarasena yesterday expressed disappointment with the decision of the Bush Administration, which has been pressuring Thailand to hold bilateral talks about issue.

He told Business Post yesterday that at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Vancouver last week, he met the US Trade Representative's assistant for Asia and Pacific, Sandra Kristoff. He said he had tried to tone down the American frustration that Thailand was unwilling to negotiate with Washington on the issue.

Mr Phatchara stressed that Thailand was prepared to negotiate with the US authorities but was awaiting a ruling by the GATT panel reviewing the case.

He said the US action would damage GATT rules and create a negative environment for trade relation between the two countries, because several Thai products are likely to be hit by the retaliation list.

Although products on the retaliation list will not be affected immediately, the listing would certainly cause concern and uncertainty in the manufacturing sector.

"I wonder why the American administration decided to prepare for retaliation on Thailand under Section 301, because it is not necessary to pressure Thailand in this way," he said.

The US claims the Thai Government has violated GATT principles by banning cigarette imports and imposing discriminatory import duties.

Mr Phatchara said although Thailand was trying to counter the US charge by telling GATT the cigarette import ban is intended to protect public health, he accepted that it seemed Thailand had little chance of winning the case.

He said if the GATT panel ruled in favour of the US, it would be necessary to hold talks with Washington on opening up the cigarette market because several details on import procedures, distribution and advertising restriction needed to be worked out.

Mr Patchara denied Thailand was using delaying tactics on the issue and said it was impossible to negotiate with the US before the GATT ruling, because the Government would face political pressure over the issue.

Japan's 'Puny Response' to Gulf Crisis Assailed

BK2009045390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Sep 90 p 11

[Editorial: "Japan's Puny Response"]

[Text] The present Gulf crisis has exposed Japan's weakness in international diplomacy and lack of sensitivity in problems affecting other countries. With one-fourth of the Group of Seven's output and its economy relying heavily on imported crude oil imports—70 per cent which come from the Middle East—Japan's initial contribution of US$1 billion toward the multinational force in the Middle East was a mere pittance.

Reeling under intense criticism from its Western allies, particularly the United States, Japan last week pledged a further US$4 billion: US$2 billion in economic aid to Middle Eastern countries hurt by UN sanctions against Iraq and US$2 billion in non-military aid to the multinational forces. However this gesture by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to appease Japan's Western allies will only win approbation in that country and nowhere else.

In the eyes of the world opposing Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who has turned the global economy upside down, Japan's policy of wanting stable Gulf oil prices while shying away from political involvement only indicates that the country is being unnecessarily timid. Notably lacking in Japan's and package to the Gulf is a plan for dispatching members of the Self-Defence Forces (SDF)—even in a non-military capacity. Even SDF doctors and nurses will not be allowed to join the 100-member medical team which Kaifu's government hopes to send to the Gulf.

Japan's ultra-cautious response to the US request for help is claimed to have been determined not only by the constitution but also by the Self-Defence Forces Law passed in the late 1950s which dictates how and under what circumstances SDF members can be sent abroad. The law allows SDF members to take part only in scientific expeditions or international sporting evnts but says nothing of their role in situations of conflict.

An exception however was made during the Vietnam War in the late 1960s. Though SDF personnel were not set to war zones in Indochina, Japanese aircraft were used to transport US troops and ammunition. Justified by the precedent set in the 1960s, Japan could embark on a similar course of action in the present Gulf conflict.

If the current Gulf crisis drags on, the United States will put more pressure for Japanese manpower to join the multinational Gulf force. Under such circumstances, new legislation will be needed in Japan to allow medical and unarmed military personnel to carry out transport, communications and other support roles. It would be inadvisable for the Japanese government to revise existing laws such as the Self-Defence Force Law or the constitution as it would look too much like reversing post-World War II policies on defence and might upset Asian countries, including South Korea and China, which still fear Japanese militarization.

While Washington is riled by Tokyo's inadequate response to the Gulf crisis, the reticence of the Japanese however might be broken sooner than expected if Saddam harms foreign hostages whom the Iraqis have rounded up in outright violation of international law and transferred to military sites that would probably come under attack if a war broke out.

At present there are 320 Japanese trapped in Iraq, 140 are men who are being held at military and industrial sites to act as human shields against a possible attack by US-dominated forces. At the same time, 20 Japanese nationals are in Kuwait.

Another factor that could prompt Japan's political involvement in the Middle East is the effect of the Gulf crisis on its economy.

The crisis is making it difficult for Japan to manage its economic and fiscal policies. Inflationary pressures from soaring crude oil prices could push Japan's interest rates even higher, further undermining the ailing Tokyo stock market and cutting into corporate profits. Already Japan's major oil companies raised wholesale petrol prices by more than 8 yen a litre on Monday. This is the largest increase since the second oil crisis between 1979-80.

Higher oil prices will ruin the Japanese economy. The Tokyo Stock Exchange has become extraordinarily sensitive to news about the Middle East and crude prices. The week Saddam's tanks rolled across Kuwait's border, the Tokyo market's Nikkei index fell by 15 per cent, more than double the falls in London and New York. Deteriorating stock prices and higher interest payments have forced many corporations to forecast a drop in profits.

Alas, this is more than a domestic oncern. A Tokyo Stock Market crash, heaven forbid, will have serious global repercussions. The financial consequences are just too grotesque to imagine. Japan with its economic muscle is in a position to assume a more responsible role in the Gulf.

Saddam must be stopped at all costs. The puny response given by Japan is not enough to support the concerted multinational efforts of the sane world.

Unpaid Workers Returning From Libya

BK2109055090 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] According to Prasong Rananan, deputy director of the Labor Department, 154 Thai workers employed by a firm in Libya complained to the Thai labor office in Greece in early August that the firm had not been paying their wages, which totaled about $1 million. The Labor

Department, in coordination with the ministry, asked Libya to stop issuing visas to the firm earmarked for Thai workers but was unsuccessful. In order to resolve the problem for the Thai workers, the department asked the firm to send the workers home and to try to send them their wages. These workers are expected to arrive home this month. The department has blacklisted the firm since August because it has a history of smuggling Thai workers to Libya.

Iran To Sell Crude Oil at 'Friendship Price'

BK2109053590 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Thailand will buy an amount of crude from Iran and hopes that the Islamic Republic will increase rice imports from the country. Minister of Commerce Amaret Sila-on [name and title as heard] said after discussion with the Iranian ambassador to Thailand at the ministry on Wednesday that Iran has agreed to sell the crude to Thailand at a friendship price. He also said that Thailand should take the current opportunity to develop trade relations with Iran and to use it as a gateway to increase Thai exports to the Middle East. Mr. Amaret said although Iran is situated close to Iraq, both countries have signed a truce agreement. During the Wednesday discussion, the Iranian ambassador also invited the commerce minister to visit Iran. The two countries are scheduled to hold a meeting of their joint commission on economic and trade cooperation next year.

Cabinet Approves Oil, Gas Exploration in Burma

BK2009114990 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] The Thai Cabinet has just approved a plan to invest in an on-shore oil project in Burma, Thai Prime Minister's Office Minister Kon Thappharangsi said in Singapore yesterday. Mr. Kon announced the approval at the news conference after addressing the sixth Asia-Pacific Petroleum Conference and making a pitch for foreign investment to develop Thailand's energy resources.

Minister Kon said the cabinet took a very bold decision Monday to authorize the Petroleum Authority of Thailand to invest in an on-shore oil block in Burma along with the United States firm Unocal in California. He said the Petroleum Authority was also instructed to explore for further possible investment in the gas blocks off-shore in the Burma area which have an estimated potential of 6.6 trillion cubic feet.

He earlier told the conference that Thailand was looking to boost energy supplies to fuel economic development, targeted at 9 percent a year for 1992 to 1996 before the Gulf crisis. Current commercial consumption in Thailand, he said, is about 600,000 barrels of crude oil, equivalent today with 61 percent, mostly oil, imported. [sentence as heard] Thailand produces only 38,000 barrels of oil a day.

Chaloem-Banhan Disagreement Escalates

BK1909053990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[By Sorayut Suthatsanachinda and Prakopphong Phanaphun]

[Text] PM's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung yesterday pulled out all stops in his fierce attacks against Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha and said the present Cabinet will have to go very soon whether he was in or out.

Chaloem raised strong objection to the package proposal by Banhan for the Lavalin International Group to undertake the Bt [baht] 40-billion skytrain project in the Cabinet meeting to give the project the final endorsement. He also publicly dismissed Banhan's denial that he abused his authority on a road accident case, and refused to meet the Chat Thai secretary general.

After the Cabinet meeting, Banhan sought a meeting with Chaloem, who told reporters that he was too busy to meet the interior minister.

The police captain also had his Muanchon Party people pack his things at his office at Government House and said he was ready to go.

But Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan denied that he would sack Chaloem and tried to downplay his offensive on the package terms for Lavalin's implementation of the mammoth project. Chaloem found strange allies from Democrat ministers in the offensive which prompted Chatchai to adjourn the deliberations on the mass transit project to next week.

After the Cabinet meeting, PM's Deputy Secretary General Bowonsak Uwanno hurriedly got in touch with Chaloem, arranging for the PM's Office minister to meet Chatchai at Government House at about 3.20 pm.

Before meeting the premier, Chaloem told reporters that the situation was now clear that this government could not stay on any longer. Therefore, it would not make any difference whether he was in or out of the Cabinet.

Emerging from the meeting, which was also attended by Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit, the secretary general of the Social Action Party, Chaloem said the premier did not discuss the political dispute with him. The premier, he said, only asked him about the arrangement for him to appear in a special TV programme on the government's two-year performance. The programme will be aired on Sept 26.

Banhan, caught off-guard by Chaloem's unexpected attack on Monday, told reporters that it was not true that he ordered Suphanburi police to file false charges of attempted murder and possession of firearms without licence against a police corporal, Surin Saengprasoet, in connection with a road accident on Sept 2. Surin's vehicle bumped into a motorcycle ridden by Chaiwat Nanthadilok, a candidate in the municipal election in Suphanburi, and was arrested while driving the injured man purportedly to a hospital.

Chaloem and Surin's wife claimed that Chaiwat was Banhan's canvasser—an allegation which Banhan denied yesterday. "On the contrary, he's canvasser for my political rival in Suphanburi," said the Chat Thai minister who was elected in the central regional province.

Banhan said local police in Song Phinong district initiated the serious charges against Surin, a police official attached to the Bo Ploy district station, because of the suspect's suspicious behaviour. This included the question why the police corporal was driving the injured man to a hospital far away instead of the Song Phinong hospital nearby.

Moreover, Surin failed to produce a licence for his firearm and the car registration plates were also hidden in his vehicle instead of being displayed at the front and back of the vehicle, Banhan said. "It's no big deal. Police only processed a complaint that there was a murder attempt. That's all there is to it," he said. But at Government House, Chaloem dismissed Banhan's explanation. "Whoever denied abusing his authority is worried that the public will know his offence. I reaffirm all my previous statements on the police case," he said.

Chaloem vowed to get to the bottom of the story and said he was ready to go for broke. "This case shows how dirty a man can be when he has gained power and has become corrupted by his own power. He abused his power by transferring two police officials from Suphanburi just because they refused to pick on Santi," Chaloem said, referring to the transfer of the Song Phinong police chief to Uttaradit and of Surin's fellow police official to Krabi.

Chaloem said he would present the report on the investigation by his police task force to Prime Minister Chatchai. "The Police Department is now under the thumb of a certain politician and the top ranking police officials have bowed under the influence," he said.

An informed source close to Chaloem said the minister was angered by a report that Banhan "gave the greenlight" for the Crime Suppression Division to take legal action against Rachan Hussen, the director of the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand [MCOT] and secretary general of Chaloem's Muanchon Party. Rachan was charged with corruption in connection with the termination of MCOT's advertising contract with Little Duck Co Ltd to save the company from paying a huge compensation.

Chaloem also privatedly accused Banhan of interfering with the budgetary allocations by the Budget Bureau, which is under the PM's Office minister's direct jurisdiction. The Muanchon leader claimed that as a result of Banhan's alleged interference, Suphanburi received up to about Bt400 million in development funds, more than the funds earmarked for more important provinces such as Ayutthaya and Nakhon Ratchasima.

Ex-army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut warned yesterday the "minor dispute" between Chaloem and Banhan could escalate into a political crisis. Chawalit, who is preparing to launch his own political party, said he would try all possible ways to sustain the government as long as possible because he was not ready just yet for a general election. He said he saw no serious problems at present that would undermine the government probably with the exception of the call by workers for an increase in the daily minimum wage rate from Bt90 to Bt110.

SAP leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot admitted that the political situation was highly volatile. But he urged the public to stay calm. "It all depends on how we look at it. If we are calm, then there will be nothing serious," he said.

Government Approves Radar Systems for Air Force

BK1909051390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Sep 90 p 3

[Text] The Government has approved the Air Force's proposed procurement of two air defence radar systems, four radar screens and two radomes and spare parts and other equipment from Britain.

The Air Force is to procure Marconi Co's radar systems and the other pieces for 1,115.9 million baht in six installments from fiscal 1991 to 1993.

The Government also has approved the Meteorological Department's proposed procurement of one weather radar system for 42 million baht from fiscal year 1990 to 1992.

The weather bureau's procurement budget includes expenses on relocation of the S-Band DWSR-88s radar facility from Bang Na station to Surin station.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan endorsed the Air Force's and weather bureau's procurements last week and the Cabinet acknowledged them yesterday.

Five Arrested in Mae Suai Heroin Factory Raid

BK1909064990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Sep 90 p 6

[Text] Chiang Rai—Border Patrol and Zone 3 Provincial Police have arrested five people including a village headman on charges of operating and investing in a makeshift heroin factory on the top of a mountain in Mae Suai District. Police seized chemicals, refining equipment and seven kilogrammes of heroin in a raid on the factory last Wednesday. One BPP [Border Patrol Police] trooper was wounded during a brief clash with armed guards at the factory.

Police identified Sanya Sae Then, 31, Kaolueleam Sae Then, 33, Kaosai Sae Then, 44, Inthon Thamin, 48, and

Laofhey Sae Then, 42, as investors in the heroin refinery. All five have confessed to the charge, police said.

Laofhey told a press conference that he and the other suspects invested about one million baht in the factory last year and had produced heroin about four times. Laofhey, who is the village headman of Ban Thai Pattana, Wiang Khan sub-district, also admitted that his gang had smuggled war weapons such as M16 rifles from Laos to trade with minority groups in Burma. The suspects yesterday took police to a cave about two kilometres from the factory where they hid another five kilogrammes of heroin on the day of the raid.

Provincial Police Zone 3 Commander Pol Lt Gen [Police Lieutenant General] Wichai Wichaithanaphat said it was the first time in 10 years that police had managed to arrest investors in a heroin factory.

Vietnam

Spokeswoman on China, Cambodia, U.S. Embargo

BK2009154390 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 20—Mrs. Ho The Lan, spokeswoman and head of the press and information department held a regular press briefing here this afternoon.

Asked about the rumour that General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi and Advisor Pham Van Dong went to Beijing recently to discuss the Cambodia issue and other questions with the Chinese leadership, Mrs. Lan said:

"At the request of the Chinese side, certain meetings between Vietnam and China should be kept secret.

"On the Cambodia issue, our consistent position is to respect Cambodia's right to self-determination and that the internal affairs of Cambodia must be decided by the Cambodian people themseves.

"Regarding the suggestions on Cambodia by other countries especially those relating to the internal affairs of Cambodia, we have relayed them to the State of Cambodia for its consideration and decision".

Asked what prospects hold for the normalization of the Sino-Vietnamese relations on the occasion of Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Nguyen Giap's visit to Beijing, Mrs. Lan said:

"Vietnam and China are two neighoours bound by long-standing friendship tradition. We are striving to restore the friendly relations in the interests of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples and for the sake of peace and stability in Asia. There have been encouraging signs.

"The Chinese government welcomed Vice-Chairman General Vo Nguyen Giap on his arrival in Beijing as distinguished guest of ASIAD 90. We wish his trip will contribute to the early normalization of the relations between the two countries".

On Vietnam's reaction to the United States prolongation of its embargo against Vietnam, Mrs. Lan said:

"The United States policy of embargo against Vietnam has been strongly criticized by Americans themselves. The decision to prolong this policy falls out of the present trend and runs counter to the desire of many circles in the United States including the US Congress. Obviously, it does not serve the interests of the United States itself".

Commentary Notes Warming Relations With U.S.

BK2009121390 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Over the past decade, the Vietnam-U.S. relations were always tense but recently, especially after U.S. Secretary of State James Baker declared the new U.S. policy toward Cambodia and advocated opening talks with Vietnam, relations between the two countries have been warmed up. Within one month, representatives to the Vietnamese and U.S. Governments held two official meetings in New York to discuss the Cambodian issue and their bilateral relations.

One week ago Vietnam returned to the U.S. side 20 sets of remains of Americans missing in the Vietnam war. After a meeting in September for the first time, a deputy foreign minister of Vietnam, Mr. Le Mai, visited the United States. Mr. Le Mai made contacts with U.S. congressmen, political activists, businessmen, and fellows with the arrangement made by the Washington Administration. These developments were in fact not as great as activities to other countries in the world but to the Vietnam-U.S. relations they were of important significance because they were initial steps showing a warmup of the U.S.-Vietnamese relations.

Together with these developments, public polls in the United States have a new look on the U.S.-Vietnam relations. Many American congressmen and businessmen said that it was time to work with Vietnam. For them, the U.S. trade embargo against Vietnam have brought about harmful consequences. While the United States refused to have relations with Vietnam, U.S. airlines have strengthened their relations with Vietnam.

According to the Japanese news agency KYODO, Japanese goods exported to Vietnam in the first five months of this year were worth $U.S. 90 million and Vietnam exported to Japan $U.S. 197 million-worth of goods.

Singapore is the biggest trade partner of Vietnam with an annual turnover of $U.S. 200 million. The trade turnover between Vietnam and Australia increased from $U.S. 6.5 million in 1984 to $U.S. 99.6 million now.

According to the committee of Indochinese market affiliated to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, about 100 foreign companies have signed contracts on trade and construction with Vietnam with investments estimated at $U.S. 850 million. They include private and state-owned companies of Britain, France, Sweden, Canada, India, and Belgium. Therefore, David Givens, President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Thailand, was right when he said that lifting the embargo against Vietnam is humanitarian and economic activity and it would bring commercial interests for the United States in Southeast Asia. Moreover, he added that U.S. embargo against Vietnam is no longer effective. Many Americans shared the same view with Mr. David Givens.

There is no doubt about prospect for normalization of Vietnam-U.S. relations.

Joint Ventures With Foreign Investors Licensed

BK2009104990 Hanoi VNA in English 0721 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 20—In July and August 1990, the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment issued licences to 18 joint venture projects in different fields of industry, communications and transport, agriculture and tourism. In August alone, ten projects received licences with a total investment of 63.7 million U.S. dollars, 54.7 million of which, or 85.7 percent, are contributed by foreign investors.

- Fifty five water wells have been sunk in five districts in the Plain of Reeds of the Southern Province of Dong Thap to provide safe water for 110 local families.

- At present, the Mekong River delta provinces are rearing nearly two milion pigs, over 625,000 cattle, and some 32.6 million poultry, according to the latest statistics.

Hau Giang Province ranks first in pig raising with 352,400 head, next come Cuu Long (274,000) and Tien Giang (248,000).

Since late last year, the Mekong River Delta provinces have concentrated more efforts in raising cattle to provide draught force for agriculture. Cuu Long Province has 124,600 buffaloes and oxen, An Giang 87,900, and Minh Hai 55,530.

Cambodian Education Delegation Holds Talks

BK2009154890 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 20—A delegation of the Cambodian Education Ministry led by its Deputy Minister Ek Sam Ol has paid an official week-long visit to Vietnam.

First Deputy Minister Phan Minh Hac and other leading officials of the Ministry of Education and Training had working sessions with the delegation.

The two sides highly valued the results of their recent cooperation, and agreed to promote it to raise the quality of personnel training.

The delegation also had working sessions with Hanoi University, the Hanoi Teacher's College No. 1, the Economics College in Hanoi and the vocational guidance and technical centre in Haiphong.

Flourishing Border Trade With PRC Detailed

BK2109033590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0217 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Lang Son, Vietnam, Sept 21 (AFP)—The people of Lang Son Province, the devastating effects of the 1979 war with China well behind them, are now busy getting rich trading with their northern neighbor. But it is a business that has led to frenzied smuggling and a dramatic rise in crime that has the local authorities baffled. Revenue from cross-border trade over the past few years has allowed this once devastated provincial capital to be rebuilt.

Lang Son city was four-fifths destroyed 11 years ago when Vietnamese soldiers defended it in a hand-to-hand, house-by-house battle that lasted for days before the numerically superior Chinese forces overpowered them.

Today, the newly built houses have already taken on the ochre hue of the dust raised by an endless convoy of old trucks filled with Chinese goods and rickety buses full of tradesmen heading to and from the border, 15 kilometers (nine miles) to the north.

The frontier was closed after the war, which China launched to "teach a lesson" to Vietnam for invading Cambodia in December 1978 and toppling the Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge regime. [sentence as received]

The prospect of normalized relations between Asia's rival communist giants have never been better, and deputy premier Vo Nguyen Giap, a hero of the Vietnam War, is currently on a visit to Beijing.

Officially unconfirmed reports say General Giap's visit was preceded by secret trips to China by Vietnam's two top leaders, party chief Nguyen Van Linh and Premier Do Muoi. But Lang Son has not waited for official word from Hanoi to normalize ties with the Chinese autonomous region of Guangxi, just across the border.

Trade is now in full swing along the 250-kilometre (160-mile) frontier, across which 7.6 million dollars worth of Chinese manufactured goods and seven million dollars worth of Vietnamese products, mainly foodstuffs, were traded last year, according to local officials. "But these figures cover only legal trade," said Tran Ngat, 41, a former teacher who is now vice-president of the local people's committee. He acknowledged that he could not give a figure that would even come close to being accurate for the huge amount of contraband that comes from China. From fountain pens to cassette players, textiles to sewing machines and shampoo to toothpaste, there is practically nothing but Chinese products on display on the wooden stands that line the muddy alleys of the Lang Son city market.

The occasional Vietnamese- or Soviet-made products on display find few buyers, if any, among the shoppers, many of them young women of the nung minority who come dressed in their traditional navy blue costumes and tressed headbands. "Millions of people crossed the border in 1989," Mr. Ngat said. "In 1985, there were only 681 crossings."

Again, these were officials figures, excluding the Nung and the Tay—another regional ethnic group—who live on either side of the frontier and together account for about 80 per cent of the people in Lang Son Province, according to a police official here.

He said the Nung and the Tay, who have been traditionally indifferent to central government authority, were responsible for first launching the illicit cross-border trade.

Mr. Ngat said the legal and illegal commercial activity had raised living standards and forced local products to become more competitive. The down side, he said, was that it brought the criminal element in. "We have a law and order problem," Mr. Ngat said, "because our wealth and the possibility of making quick money have attracted many people—not all of them honest. People come from Hanoi, Haiphong, and even as far away as Ho Chi Minh City (formally Saigon)," attracted by the prospect of quick riches, he said. "They are very dangerous," the official added. "They are armed, and there is more and more violence."

Neither the central authority—which seems light-years away although Hanoi is only 150 kilometres (95 miles) to the south—nor local officials have succeeded in attempts to end the crime spree that thrives on the smuggling.

"The police and the army are powerless," commented a local shopkeeper. "Some of them are in cahoots with the gangs and just ignore the smuggling." He had no doubts, he said, that the Lang Son police were the richest in Vietnam.

Interior Minister Comments on Security Forces

BK1409111190 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 21 Aug 90, pp 1, 4

[Article by Mai Chi Tho, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister of interior: "Forty-Five Years of Fighting and the Growth of the Vietnam People's Public Security Force"]

[Text] The Vietnam People's Public Security Force [VPPSF] proudly celebrate their 45th founding anniversary (19 August 1945-19 August 1990) amid the atmosphere of the entire country engaged in emulation activities to greet the major festive days of 1990. The struggle and growth of the VPPSF over the past 45 years constitutes a new heroic chapter in the history of our people's protracted and arduous revolutionary struggle for independence, freedom, and socialism.

A characteristic of the Vietnamese revolution is that it has had to confront big and powerful enemies and, on many occasions, it has had to face several enemies simultaneously. All the enemies have sought to undermine and destroy our party first. Therefore, immediately after its founding, our party raised the question of its protection as an extremely important task, that all party members and the revolutionary masses prevent informers, secret agents, and imperialists... from worming their way into the party to spy on and sabotage it. In accordance with each stage of development of the revolution, our party organized red self-defense units, worker-peasant self-defense units, traitor- elimination honor units, Viet Minh reconnaissance units... to perform the duty of protecting leading cadres and organs of the party and safeguarding mass meetings and rallies. From these forerunners, under party leadership and due to the careful training and guidance of respected and beloved President Ho Chi Minh, and tempered in the process of the national revolutionary struggle, the VPPSF has gradually matured and achieved glorious exploits. In the wars for national liberation and national defense, the VPPSF, together with all our Army and people, had vanquished the professional intelligence and espionage organizations of the Japanese fascists, French colonialists, U.S. imperialists, and international reactionary forces, thereby making great contributions to firmly defending the fatherland and fulfilling international obligations. Public security organizations were set up in the very first days of the successful revolution. No sooner had it come into being than the VPPSF had to face many cruel and crafty enemies. Surmounting extremely serious trials, the resourceful and courageous VPPSF successfully dealt with the Chiang Kaishek special services, French secret agents and spies, and their reactionary henchmen, destroying their lairs where they had committed crimes and murders, and protecting the nascent revolutionary administration. During those difficult times, the people in Nam Bo began their war of resistance against the French colonialists. The Office of National Self-Defense Forces (later renamed Nam Bo Public Security Force), with its public security assault units, suicide squads, and commando teams, fought stalwartly and courageously made sacrifices, duly punishing the ringleaders of espionage and secret services of the French colonialists and their efficient henchmen, Vietnamese traitors.

In the national war of resistance against the French colonialist aggressors, the VPPSF, in coordination with the Vietnam People's Army, the militia, the self-defense forces, and the people throughout the country, firmly defended the rear and base area of the revolution. On the other hand, public security cadres and combatants, maintaining close contact with the people, operated deep behind enemy lines to build revolutionary bases, eliminate traitors, and wipe out puppet administrations. They created people's security networks such as the "five-households mutual defense group" and effectively supported the masses' revolutionary movement in the cities and areas under temporary enemy occupation. The VPPSF participated in the defense of various campaigns, especially the Dien Bien Phu Campaign, thus contributing to the total liberation of North Vietnam and bringing it along the path to socialism to serve as a strong rear base for the cause of liberation of South Vietnam and national reunification.

In the cause of building socialism and carrying out socialist transformation in the north, the VPPSF joined the people in striving to protect our revolutionary gains. Along with efforts to stop the enemy's attempts to force a mass exodus, the VPPSF tracked down and successfully annihilated or disbanded tens of thousands of bandits in the northeast and northwest, thus quickly stabilizing the fatherland's border area and firmly maintaining public order and security in areas hardest hit by the destructive war. While tracking down spies and reactionaries inside the country, the VPPSF captured in their entirety many enemy espionage and commando groups with their modern weapons and equipment, thus foiling the U.S. imperialists' strategic scheme of "fighting the Communists right from within" in order to expand their war of aggression to the north. At the same time, efforts were also made by the VPPSF to provide assistance to the major southern frontline.

On the southern battlefield, the VPPSF transformed itself into an espionage force to reconnoiter the enemy situation in the service of party policies and lines. When the concerted mass uprising movement flared up, with its three-pronged attack tactic, the VPPSF joined the revolutionary masses in all three strategic areas in bravely and resourcefully eliminating spies and tyrants, breaking the enemy's grip, destroying various mass concentration camps and strategic hamlets, and setting up numerous liberated zones. With its bravery and creativity, the Southern Public Security Force struggled to avert and foil various espionage and psychologial warfare schemes and actions of the U.S. imperialists, such as their extremely dangerous "Thien Nga" and "Phuong Hoang" campaigns.

Following the great victory of the 1975 Spring, our people, while building socialism nationwide, had to cope with the perfidious schemes of the imperialists and the expansionists and those of the latter's Pol Pot lackey clique, and had to fulfill their internationalist duty. Once again, with its revolutionary heroism held high, the VPPSF joined the entire Army and people in frustrating the enemy's schemes and actions, thus making active contributions to the cause of socialist construction and national defense.

What is regarded as a prominent exploit is that over the past 45 years, the VPPSF, together with the entire people and Army, successfully ensured maximum security for various nerve organs of the revolution, for our party and state leaders, and for our national border and offshore islands. Since the Sixth Party Congress, the work of ensuring public security and order has experienced changes for the better in the direction of "regarding the people as the root," thus serving the people's interests. We have launched a nationwide mass movement against crime. Through this mass movement, the VPPSF has been further consolidated politically, ideologically, and organizationally.

After 45 years of struggle and growth, the VPPSF has come to deserve being a sharp tool of the system of dictatorship by the proletariat and a backbone strike force on the front for the maintenance of political security, social order, and safety. With its glorious achievements, the VPPSF has been awarded two Gold Star Orders, 46 Ho Chi Minh Orders, and three Independence Orders by the state. Two hundred and seventy units and 132 cadres and combatants have been awarded the title of Hero of the People's Armed Forces.

Together with its victorious growth, the great achievements scored by the VPPSF in the maintenance of national security over the past 45 years should be attributed firstly to the leadership of the glorious Communist Party of Vietnam founded by great President Ho Chi Minh.

The correct party leadership combined with fine national tradition is the factor that decides all victories of the VPPSF in the assurance of political security and order. Our party has firmly grasped the revolutionary and scientific nature of Marxism-Leninism, combined it with fine national tradition, and creatively applied it to the specific situation in our country. In each period and each stage of the revolution, our party has correctly solved the problems concerning lines, principles, strategies, policies, methods and leadership in order to conduct the struggle, capitalize on contradictions, and divide, isolate, and defeat the most dangerous enemy, and has won great victories in the revolutionary struggle. Our party has closely combined socialist construction with the defense of the socialist fatherland, security with national defense, economy with culture, and political security with public safety. It has brought into play the force of all the people and the integrated strength of the entire system of proletarian dictatorship.

The struggle against counterrevolutionaries and other criminals to defend national security is the people's undertaking. Uncle Ho taught: "We must rely on the people and should not distance ouselves from them. The more assistance the people give us, the more victories we will win; the less they help us, the less successful we will be. If they give us their full support, then our victory will be total." Relying on the people's strength and coordinating closely with various sectors, agencies, and mass organizations, the VPPSF knows how to bring into play their key assault role, creatively apply all economic, organizational, educational, and administrative measures, and flexibly combine measures to stir up mass movements with professional and technological measures to effectively struggle against counterrevolutionaries and other criminals, and gradually wipe out the causes of and grounds for crimes. This is a science and an art applied by our party to create an integrated strength to ensure national security and order in the past 45 years.

At a time when it had to successively wage the fiercest and longest revolutionary wars to cope with many outside enemies, our party had to build the VPPSF into a revolutionary armed force, a reliable instrument of the party, a sharp tool of the state, of the proletariat, and the people's beloved children who are absolutely loyal to the country and ready to sacrifice themselves for the cause of national security, independence, freedom, and socialism. Building and consolidating the VPPSF into an ever healthier and comprehensively stronger force is a factor that will ensure the defense of national security in our country.

On the battlefront of security and order, national force is linked closely to the strength of the era. In the defense of national security and the assurance of social order, our party has always treasured international solidarity, unity and cooperation with the Soviet Union, Laos, Cambodia, and other socialist countries.

Our country is advancing to socialism at a time when a very fierce amd complex struggle has taken place in the international arena and our country. Imperialists, international reactionary forces, and their henchmen are striving to accelerate the comprehensive and profound crisis in socialist countries in order to eliminate the socialist system. During the whole first stage of the transitional period, our country remained a target of their attack and sabotage. As a result, the duty of prime importance to our party, state, and people is to defend national security in the political, economic, ideological, cultural, and social domains.

Achievements scored in improving and stabilizing the political, economic, cultural, and social situations will serve as a firm foundation for national security. Likewise, a firm sense of national security will create favorable conditions for strengthening these situations. Only by consistently improving the people's material and spiritual life and persistently urging them to lead a socialist lifestyle will we be able to firmly maintain internal security and effectively foil the schemes and acts of sabotage from the outside.

Maintaining national security is the people's undertaking. As a result, it is necessary to rely on the people, firmly grasp the situation, consistently help enhance the masses' political vigilance, and build the all-people national defense position. It is also necessary to firmly combine the mass movement for national security and the proletarian dictatorship's integrated strength with that of responsible and semi-responsible forces as well as with other concrete, effective measures.

We must firmly combine democracy with proletarian dictatorship, strive to promote and protect the people's right to master their lives and properties, and implement the policy on great national unity while strictly dealing with the enemy and resolutely opposing the counterrevolutionary elements and other criminals.

The most effective policy on social management and humanitarianism must be based on such basic measures as reconstruction, prevention of crimes, education, and reeducation. Moreover, we must actively and consistently oppose and suppress criminals, considering it a positive, regular task to curb and effectively prevent crimes. We must combine serious punishment with leniency and suppression with reeducation, while striving to educate and persuade criminals to participate in opposing and preventing crimes.

The VPPSF must be built into a strong, pure unit acting as a core, assault, and effective force for maintaining national security. This force must be a consistently firm political Army having a lofty concept, a spirit of revolutionary offensive, and a sense of strengthening unity with the people and effectively carrying out tasks related to the masses. It must be a force that has mastered its profession, acquired a good scientific background, and be equipped with sufficient material-technical facilities in order to gradually become a standardized and modernized force. We must build a firm semi-responsible force and closely combine the responsible and semi-responsible forces with the mass movement.

With a view to effectively maintain national security and firmly defend the socialist fatherland, we must ensure that the VPPSF is an armed struggling force absolutely loyal to the fatherland and the people and is under the direct, comprehensive leadership of the party and close management of the state.

Commemorating the VPPSF 45th founding anniversary, the entire party, Army, people, and all its members are determined to enhance their vigilance, develop the fine tradition, and make their utmost effort to score ever greater achievements to firmly maintain national security under all circumstances, thereby contributing to triumphantly building socialism and firmly defending our beloved Vietnamese fatherland.

Gen Nguyen Quyet Comments on Party Renovation

BK1709143190 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Aug 90 pp 1, 4

[Article by General Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of State, and head of the Vietnamese People's Army, VPA, Political General Department: "Develop the Spirit of Independence and Sovereignty, Step Up the Comprehensive Renovation Undertaking"]

[Text] Forty-five years ago, under the party's leadership, our people successfully carried out the August Revolution and added the most glorious page to our nation's 4,000-year-old history of building and defending the fatherland. This great revolution marked a major turning point in our nation's history and an unprecedented change in the life of each Vietnamese citizen.

As time went by, it has further demonstrated the greatness of the August Revolution and the correctness and creativity of the strategies and tactics devised by our party, which was founded and trained by venerated Uncle Ho. The factor of success of the August Revolution in particular and of the Vietnamese revolution as a whole lies in the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], a staff armed with Marxism-Leninism to guide the struggle. The success of the August Revolution has taught our entire party, people, and Armed Forces a very invaluable lesson about resourcefulness; spirit of independence, sovereignty, and self-sufficiency; and the importance of the flesh-and-blood relations between the party and people. Throughout the whole process of the revolution, the party has trusted the people and regarded them as the base. The people, moreover, have trusted and resolutely followed the party. Consequently, the Vietnamese revolution has overcome all obstacles, challenges, and dangers.

Through the major preparations for the revolution during the 1930-1931, 1936-1939, and 1939-1945 periods, our party has accumulated valuable experiences in personnel organization and applied effective revolutionary methods to wait for or create the opportunity so that when the latter presented itself, everyone readily took very resolute and courageous action. In mid-1945, after completely defeating the fascist German clique, the Soviet Armed Forces moved to the east, dealt a decisive blow to the militarist Japanese clique, and ultimately forced the Japanese emperor to declare an unconditional surrender. Our party has regarded that event as a once-in-a-thousand-year opportunity for our people to rise up and seize power. Uncle Ho then said: "The good opportunity has come. Let us spare no sacrifices. Even if we had to burn down the whole of the Truong Son Mountain, we would stand ready to do so in order to wrest back independence." In light of the various party resolutions and directives, especially the party Central Committee Directive 12 on uprising orientations, on 15 August 1945, the Hanoi municipal party committee convened an enlarged conference of cadres to discuss the uprising plan. Despite the strong support of the party Central Committee, the Hanoi party organization had to reduce its numerical strength to 50-60 party members to avoid the enemy's constant terrorist acts. Moreover, although the party had organized three self-defense detachments comprising nearly one thousand people, only several dozens of guns were available then. However, the party was supported by large numbers of people who nurtured profound sentiments toward the revolution and who were ready for the uprising. Meanwhile, the Japanese army set up a military corps command in Hanoi with tens of thousands of troops and thousands of security guards having all kinds of weapons at their disposal. Some people suggested that since our local armed forces were not strong enough, it would be better to wait for the party Central Committee to send reinforcement forces—the liberation troops in the resistance war zone—to take part in the Hanoi uprising. Knowing that the masses' seething revolutionary impetus, aspiration for liberation, and readiness to execute the party's uprising order have created a source of invincible strength for the uprising to end in victory, the municipal party committee unanimously agreed to start the uprising using the local armed forces. As for the enemy troops in Hanoi, they possessed great numerical strength but were low in morale. Some of them had already sided with the revolution. The problem was that the party leadership had to display strong determination, map out correct policies and measures, and know how to organize forces and closely combine the masses' uprising movement with the armed struggle in order to secure victories. Particularly, because the municipal party committee fully understood the party's uprising strategy, it stood ready to lead the masses in the uprising to seize power when the opportunity was ripe. Later on, when thinking about those eventful moments, cadres and party members in Hanoi realized even more clearly the need for each individual party member and grass-roots party organization to fully understand higher echelons' directives and resolutions; heighten the sense of responsibility, organization, and discipline; and strictly adhere to guiding principles while at the same time know how to take resolute, positive, and resourceful action to cope with real life situations. The conference of the Hanoi municipal party committee was of great importance for the uprising to seize power in Hanoi because the delegates successfully resolved a series of key issues, including the correct evaluation of the balance between our strength and the enemy's strength, the determination of the right time for action, and the use of the masses to stage the uprising. There were many difficulties. A number of key cadres had also set out to receive the uprising order and could not make it back to Hanoi in time for the uprising. Nonetheless, the Hanoi uprising did take place as scheduled and was crowned with a brilliant victory. Together with Hanoi, within two weeks, our people in other provinces, cities, and localities throughout the country rose up and seized power.

The August Revolution ushered in a new era for our nation and provided us with many valuable lessons which are still of great significance to the present time. Our party has, on many occasions, stressed: One of the key tasks in the general uprising is to accurately evaluate our strength and that of the enemy, and that when opportunity comes we must act resolutely, promptly, and quickly. Our party consistently applied Marxist-Leninist dialectical materialism to monitor and study the domestic and international situations by keeping our nation current with the world situation and combining our people's struggle with that of the socialist, democratic, progressive, and anti-fascist forces in the world.

Opportunity is an important factor leading to victory for the uprising and revolution. The most decisive point is, however, that one must know how to create opportunity, firmly grasp and creatively apply it to the unique condition of one's nation in order to turn it into his nation's favor and strength. One must also be prepared to seize the opportunity when it comes; otherwise, it will quickly slip away. Thanks to our party's genius, it knows how to create and quickly grasp opportunity. As a result, our party resolutely led our entire people to rise up for the revolution. It did not helplessly wait for the revolution in Japan or the Soviet and allied armies to come and help it liberate the nation.

The victory of the August 1945 uprising was the victory of the all-people solidarity bloc under the CPV leadership. The party stirred up the masses' spirit of patriotism and profound hatred against the enemy, motivated the people to participate in the uprising, and firmly integrated the political struggle with the armed struggle, thus being able to quickly achieve victory with less bloodshed and correctly implement Uncle Ho's teaching: "We must use our strength to liberate ourselves."

The Vietnamese nation, however, seemed to be charged with continued heavy tasks by history. Immediately after the August Revolution, the nation again plunged into the anti-war of resistance against the French when they staged a comeback and afterward engaged in the very arduous and decisive anti-U.S. resistance war for national salvation. Our nation's long march of resistance dragged on for 30 years with numerous ordeals, sometime the nation's fate and destiny were at the brink of an abyss. Our party, however, stood firm with confidence in the people's strength. The party consistently upheld the concept of "taking the people as a base." It also upheld the spirit of fighting for independence and self-reliance, and firmly combined the strength of the nation with that of the era. In so doing, the party actively and promptly formulated correct, creative strategies that helped lead our people to overcome dangerous ordeals and to score victory after victory and, at the same time, contributed appropriately to the cause of the world revolution.

The party's 60-year old history and the 45 years of national building—which began from the great August uprising—have provided our party and people with a valuable lesson on the invincible strength of the all-people solidarity bloc and the significance of self-reliance. The Vietnamese revolution is part and parcel of the world revolution. We have profoundly realized that all achievements scored by our revolution during the past 45 years were inseparable from the wholehearted support and effective assistance of fraternal socialist countries, especially of the Soviet Union and China as well as progressive friends the world over. Moreover, through this assistance, our party and people have also realized that only by upholding independence, sovereignty, and self-reliance will we be able to effectively bring into full play our friends' great assistance and add it to our national strength for the cause of national construction and defense. This is also a valuable lesson reminding our party and people to consistently realize that: International assistance is an objective condition and a decisive factor for our revolution's victory. However, in carrying out national construction and defense—under all circumstances and even in the most favorable international condition—if we do not have our own revolutionary line based on the spirit of independence and sovereignty and the sense of self-reliance and creativity—while relying only on assistance from the outside—then we will not be able to bring into full play the assistance received, no matter how great it is, and we will finally face difficulties.

Enlightened by this profound truth and based on tangible realities and historical experiences, the sixth party congress has maintained a serious analytical attitude and has boldly faced the truth, correctly evaluating past achievements and exposing shortcomings and mistakes in strategic guidance and work implementation. The congress has ascertained the urgent need for renovation because this is essential for the survival of the revolution in our country. It is the CPV that has traced and led the entire people along the path of renovation. The sixth party congress's renovation lines have brought into full play the intellect and potential of the entire nation, as well as each individual citizen. These lines have awakened patriotism, a love for socialism, a dedication to work, and a spirit of self-reliance among the people, grass-roots establishments, and localities, as well as succeeding in broadening international relations. Based on the actual situation in the country, our party has taken appropriate steps and attaches primary importance to economic reform. As a result, the renovation lines have become part of the people's lives and have attained important initial results, thus creating conditions for the revolution in our country to renovate itself and to make steady progress.

The 1990's have witnessed many great and profound changes on the national and international level. The imperialist and world reactionary forces have intensified their intervention and sabotage and have implemented their very wicked and fraudulent peaceful evolution strategy in an attempt to destroy the revolutionary gains and eliminate the socialist countries. As far as our country is concerned, a small number of reactionary, opportunistic, and discontented elements have raised their heads. Encouraged by the dark forces from without, they have intensified their activities in an effort to oppose the party leadership, create instability, and hinder the cause of renovation. At present, our nation faces serious challenges and also has very great opportunities. The renovation undertaking requires all cadres and party members to renovate their thinking and persist in the socialist path chosen by the party and Uncle Ho. In this way, together with the entire people, they will successfully lead the revolution forward, score increasingly greater victories, and bring about happiness and a bountiful life for the people and the nation.

The renovation undertaking calls for efforts on the part of the party to renovate itself and improve its leadership mechanism in order to fulfill its historic mission. The party has taken effective measures to revamp its organizations, renovate and strengthen its leadership mechanism, and enhance the political quality and vanguard role of party members so the latter can act as the hardcore element of the all-people solidarity bloc. Uncle Ho once said: The strength of the party lies in the fine quality of party chapters and the fine quality of party chapters lies in the fine quality of all party members. This explains why in 1945, our party had only 5,000 members but successfully led the people in the struggle to seize power throughout the country. Our party now has more than two million members and almost all of them still maintain that fine political quality. This is a valuable asset in order that the revolution score victories in the new situation. Our Army is a loyal and trustworthy force of our party and state. It can perform in combat, assume various kinds of work assignments, or engage in production. Cadres and soldiers of our People's Armed Forces fully understand the party's renovation lines; firmly grasp the concepts of people's war and all-people national defense; uphold the spirit of independence, sovereignty, and self-reliance; stand ready to undergo combat training activities for national defense, as well as to engage in production for national construction; and work together with the entire people to help the nation promptly overcome the economic crisis.

Strongly developing the tradition and lessons of the August Revolution and under the leadership of the glorious CPV founded and trained by President Ho Chi Minh, let our entire people and Armed Forces steadily march forward, resolutely accelerate the renovation undertaking, and firmly protect and successfully build the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

NHAN DAN Urges Party Purification

BK1809141590 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 29 Aug 90 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Firmly Grasp and Correctly Implement the Requirement of Consolidating the Party and Purifying Its Ranks"]

[Text] Along with providing leadership for satisfactorily resolving the current burning socioeconomic problems, party organizations of provinces, cities, and special zones are staging a drive to consolidate the party and purify the contingents of cadres and party members and enhance their militancy one step further. This is an important condition for our party to maintain firmly and intensify its role, renew its leadership in the new situation, and make its coming seventh congress a fine success.

In general, many party committee echelons have strived to provide leadership for satisfactorily conducting this political drive in connection with the socioeconomic tasks of the localities. The party organizations of Hai Hung, Thai Binh, Ha Son Binh, Quang Ninh, Ha Nam Ninh, Thua Thien-Hue, and Haiphong Provinces and some other localities have emphasized their leadership over those pilot units that have initially had some good experiences. Many units have properly combined self-criticism and criticism by party members with soliciting the views of the masses that participate in party building tasks, and with the control, inspection, and investigation by functional agencies. In some party organizations, key cadres of party committees have been examined first while adequate preparations are being made to examine all party members. Prompt action has been taken by many party organizations to commend those party members who have satisfactorily brought into play their vanguard role and have maintained close relations with the masses. At the same time, proper measures have been also taken to eliminate from the party those who are degenerate and deviant. Through the pilot units, higher party committee echelons have better assessed the actual status of basic party organizations, correctly analyzed the quality of party members, and acquired inital experiences to expand this drive of consolidating the party.

Limited and inconsistent results have been achieved in the process of providing leadership for fulfilling the three requirements: further purifying the party ranks; enhancing the militancy of party organizations, cadres and members; and securing good relations between the party and the people. Some localities have even failed to firmly grasp and correctly perform the three requirements of this drive to consolidate the party. Many localities have stressed action to examine and deal with those cadres and party members who have encroached on discipline while failing to simultaneously emphasize the requirements of enhancing the militancy of party organizations and strengthening the relationship between the party and the people. Regarding the requirement of purifying the party, even the qualifying criteria for party membership are inadequately observed. As a result, the qualitative assessment of party members has not correctly reflected the actual status. In examining and disciplining party members, many localities still manifest face-saving, duty dodging, and rightist leaning behavior, especially toward party members in leading positions. Many party bases have not scrupulously examined the role of party chapters and the responsibility of party members for the people's livelihood. Some localities have been burdened with cases of violations against socialist assets and reprisals against and oppression of people, but party organizations there have disregarded the people's views and the results of control, inspection, and investigation by functional agencies to deal definitively with these negative phenomena.

Experiences gained from the pilot units clearly indicate: Making another important step to purify the party is an urgent demand to be scrupulously fulfilled in the present situation. Resolution 4 of the Political Bureau clearly specifies: "Degenerate and deviant organizations and components must be first of all eliminated from the party. Those cadres and party members found to have committed serious mistakes and shortcomings will receive proper disciplinary measures depending on the nature and gravity of their offenses. Those party members who have too little political awareness and are not trusted by the people, will be expelled from the party by appropriate regular measures." Although this is an urgent issue, it is not the only demand, because in all party building campaigns we must in the final analysis be able to enhance the militancy of party organizations and the vanguard intellectual and operational abilities of cadres and party members. This is both a requirement and an objective to be fulfilled by all means. If we are not concerned with adequately fulfilling this requirement, we will achieve neither result in purifying the party nor guaranteeing its advance in the right direction. In fact, some localities have only paid attention to disciplining party members, and have failed to consolidate party chapters, improve party activities, and closely administer party members. They have, therefore, ultimately remained in the same sluggish situation as before. The process of consolidating the party and purifying its ranks is also the process of attaching cadres and party members closely to the people and of strengthening the kith and kin relationship between the party and the people. If the militancy of the party ranks cannot be enhanced and the relationship between the party and the people cannot be strengthened by concrete action, it will be meaningless to speak about "purifying the party ranks."

The imminent problem raised now is that localities must examine the pilot units and promptly draw upon their experiences in order to firmly grasp and adequately fulfill the three requirements of consolidating the party and purifying its ranks in this drive. Only by firmly grasping the requirements can we have the conditions for combining self-criticism and criticism within the party in order to motivate the masses to join in party building. This requires true democratic debate among party committees, primarily at the grass-roots level, to enable party members to unify their knowledge about the close organic relations between purifying the party and enhancing party organizations' militancy and strengthening party-people relationship. These three requirements constitute a unified body.

An Giang Province Disciplines Party Members

BK1909141390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] Party chapters and organization of An Giang Province have linked control over party members' compliance with the party's statutes with the implementation of Council of Ministers Directive 240 on the struggle against corruption.

A total of 167 party members of the party chapters and organizations in four [as heard] districts and cities—Long Xuyen, Cho Moi, Thoai Son—and of the provincial public security force owed debts to the state, with 13 of them owing from 100 to 400 tonnes of fertilizer, three owing from 100 to 500 tonnes of paddy, 21 owing from 10 to 60 million dong, and 18 owing from one to 35 taels of gold. The party chapters with indebted members have worked out plans to solve each case specifically and set a time limit for the debtors to pay off.

In Long Xuyen city, 43 party members who owed money to the bank refused to pay up, misappropriated capital, and violated financial regulations. To date, 28 of them have been disciplined and 15 expelled from the party. In Phu Tan District, four members of the district party committee have been dismissed, and five village party secretaries and the chairman of the people's committee of Chau Phu Village have been replaced. The party secretary and the chairman of the people's committee of Chau Phu Village have also been relieved of their official duties.

Symposium Held To Renovate Party Activities

BK2009103390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] On 17-18 September, the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee's mass motivation organs bloc held a symposium on the renovation of party activities at various agencies.

Attending the symposium were Comrade Vu Oanh, secretary of the party Central Committee, and almost 200 leading cadres from various agencies including members of the party Central Committee, party members and party committee members, secretaries of party chapters of the mass motivation organs bloc, and representatives of organizing and control committees of the party Central Committee Ideology and Culture Department.

The symposium discussed and exchanged views on measures to improve the quality of party members and strengthen the militancy of party organizations, considering this a key task to purify the party, renovate the party activities, serve mass mobilization work, and consolidate the unity between the party and the people.

War Veterans Associations Assist Party Chapters

BK2109090990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] So far, except for Ha Bac and Vinh Phu Provinces, provisional executive committees have been set up by all war veterans associations in 42 cities and provinces throughout the country to direct and coordinate members' activities.

Some 150,000 war veterans members of city, ward, or village war veteran association chapters have actively participated in different kinds of social activities. In Nghe Tinh, Ha Son Binh, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and other localities, provincial and city party committees regard local war veterans associations as revolutionary mass organizations and have given them financial aid and other facilities, thus further encouraging them to take positive action to protect revolutionary gains and socialism.

In Ho Chi Minh City and Hau Giang, Long An, Cuu Long, and Kien Giang Provinces, local war veterans have devised different forms of activities to help local party chapters and administrative bodies ensure political stability. This step has been taken to oppose attempts by outside reactionary elements in colluding with internal bad elements in the implementation of the Shift the Flames to the Motherland campaign, and to strongly warn these elements against creating chaos or instigating the people, and that they would completely foil any such attempts.

Thanks to their close association with grass-roots organizations and a thorough understanding of the local situation, war veterans in Thanh Hoa, An Giang, Cuu Long, and many other provinces have helped peasants settle their personal conflicts, especially in land disputes, thus averting regrettable incidents.

The Hai Phong War Veterans Association has raised the issue of providing assistance to a seriously crippled war veteran each month, thus further promoting solidarity among all association members.

Symposium on Rural Policies Opens in Hanoi

BK2009105390 Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 20—A symposium on new rural policies for developing household economy was opened here yesterday under the co-sponsorship of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation (ACCT) of French-speaking countries, the Bordeaux International College and the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry.

Present at the opening session were Prof. Vu Tuyen Hoang, deputy minister of agriculture and food industry; Y. Diawara [name as received], director of the Bordeaux International College; representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food Agriculture Organization (FAO), and 12 ACCT member countries, including Belgium, Benin, Canada, Congo, Ivory Coast, Haiti, Laos, Madagascar, Niger, Togo, Tunisia, and Zaire; and nearly 20 Vietnamese scientists of various fields.

The symposium, scheduled for ten days, is aimed at promoting agricultural production in developing countries.

Reflections on Ho Chi Minh Monument in Moscow

BK1409140390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Sep 90

[15 September QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Article by Quang Loi: "Reflections on the Ho Chi Minh Monument in Moscow"]

[Text] Chevay Cholainikov, head of the Information and Correspondence Department of the IAN news agency and Aleksandr Rakaman, special correspondent of the IAN news agency, were busy helping me prepare for unexpected meetings during the last day of my visit to the Soviet Union. But, when I expressed the desire to visit the Ho Chi Minh Monument in Moscow, the two Soviet newsmen welcomed my proposal enthusiastically as they wanted to visit the monument themselves.

When we were within a short distance from the site, I looked through the car window and saw the monument dedicated to Uncle Ho stand out in the square bearing his name. Climbing the steps leading to the marble monument, I saw four bouquets of fresh gladioli and carnations laid there just a moment ago by some Soviet guests as a token of their admiration for Uncle Ho. The flowers glittered with Moscow's late summer rain drops and seemed to shine under the sunlight which had just sneaked out of the clouds.

I observed a minute of silence and then walked around to take a close look at the monument. The statue of Uncle Ho stood on a round bronze stand symbolizing the sun. His famous statement—which contains the lasting truth that nothing is more precious than independence and freedom—was elaborately engraved on the forepart of the bronze stand. In front of the stand was the statue of a bent muscular Vietnamese worker, his eyes turned upward as if staring into the future. Behind the stand were many bamboo clumps. The entire block of bronze was placed on a large bronze pad which in turn was posed on a marble stand.

Soviet correspondent Chevay Cholainikov said to me: This is a unique monument in Moscow and the Soviet Union. I have never seen anything like this before. The builders of this monument must have had a profound love for Vietnam and a thorough understanding of Vietnamese culture and history.

How many monuments of foreign leaders have been built in the Soviet Union?, I asked.

Very, very few, Chevay replied. As far as I know, besides the statues of Karl Marx, the Soviet Union also built the statues of Mahatma Gandhi and Ho Chi Minh.

The Ho Chi Minh Monument was built in Moscow under special historical circumstances. The profound socio-political changes in the Soviet Union and many other countries have also given rise to attempts to reconsider the validity of many doctrines and moral values. As part of these attempts, there has been a radical demand to completely reject the past. In the controversy these attempts have caused, the issue of building or removing the statues of national and international leaders has also arisen.

I learned that at the beginning of this year when the Ho Chi Minh Monument building project entered its final phase, that the comrade Soviet leaders received a suggestion that the construction of the Ho Chi Minh Monument should be cancelled because Ho Chi Minh, being a very simple man, would not have wanted anyone to build his statue. However, in response to the aspiration of the majority of the people in Moscow and the Soviet Union, the Soviet party and government have decided to go ahead with the Ho Chi Minh Monument project as planned.

On 18 May, on the occasion of Uncle Ho's birth centenary, a solemn ceremony was held in Moscow to unveil a Ho Chi Minh statue in the presence of various high-ranking Soviet party and state leaders of Moscow and a large number of people.

On behalf of the Soviet party and state, Comrade Pugo, said: The Soviet Union will forever remember the image of Ho Chi Minh—the outstanding son of the Vietnamese nation, an extraordinary activist of the world communist and workers movement, and a great friend of the Soviet Union.

Prior to my departure for the Soviet Union, I had a chance to read an article in the MOSCOW BULLETIN entitled "The Brass Sun in Moscow." The author of this press article criticized building the statue, viewing it as throwing money out the window.

During my visit to the Soviet Union, in a cordial conversation I heard a number of Soviet friends expessing their disagreement with the points raised by the press article, saying that: In daily life, especially in the close relations between nations such as Vietnam and the Soviet Union, we should not value everything in monetary terms be there are things that are ten times more valuable than money.

Looking up at Uncle's image and then glancing at various bouquets of fresh flowers laid at the base of the statue, from deep in my heart came a wave of emotion and pride. Amid today's world full of eventful changes, many lofty values of the past are no longer respected. But the life and the deeds of Uncle Ho will continue to live forever in the hearts of the Soviet people.

The image of Lenin's statue in Hanoi suddenly came to my mind. He stands leisurely under the blue sky of the capital of Vietnam, the country in which he never set foot. But his thoughts and deeds will live forever in the hearts and minds of the millions of Vietnamese people. Here, there are also many fresh flowers laid daily at the base of the statue where children are usually seen playing about merrily. They all learn by heart the following poem:

In Russia Mr. Lenin lived

But very much a Vietnamese we feel he was.

I never met the builders of the statue such as Mr. Segal, a popular Soviet sculptor and member of the Soviet Academy of Folk Arts, and Mr. Kananin, an architect, who had arduously labored for years to finalize the Ho Chi Minh statue. I remembered a statement by Navidyn, the man in charge of the sculptors building the Ho Chi Minh Museum in Hanoi, that our souls have been left behind in Hanoi. This make me think that part of the souls and hearts of Segal and Kananin had also been left behind at the Ho Chi Minh statue in Moscow.

Fiji

Army 'Willing' To Send Troops to Cambodia

BK2109024490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1742 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Suva, Sept 20 (AFP)—Fiji military forces commander Major-General Sitiveni Rabuka said Thursday that his Army was willing to join any United Nations (U.N.) peacekeeping operation in Cambodia.

Speaking on Radio Fiji, Maj. Gen. Rabuka, leader of Fiji's two military coups in 1987, said his 5,015-strong Army could spare up to 1,000 soldiers. Fiji had told the U.N. that it was willing to participate in any force. If the U.N. accepted "we will then arrange the troops, train them and launch them," he said.

Fiji has 1,100 men in peacekeeping duties in Lebanon and Sinai and last year sent soldiers to help supervise the withdrawl of Soviet troops from Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Talks among the four warring Cambodian factions on implementing a U.N.-brokered peace plan for the country broke down in Bangkok

Government Denies Indians Tortured, Jailed

BK2109114190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1103 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Suva, Sept 21 (AFP)—The Fijian Government Friday rejected opposition claims that ethnic Indians were being "tortured and jailed" and forced to flee the country.

Fiji's Information Minister Ratu Inoke Kubuabola described as "total fabrication" the allegations made by three former ministers of the deposed coalition government currently visiting India. He said the Suva regime found it "interesting" that such statements were made in India which a 1990 Amnesty International report accused of violating human rights by detaining prisoners without trial. "It is a great pity the coalition officials should resort to such low tactics aimed at giving (Fiji) a bad name and seeking to create instability, tension and conflict in our country," Mr. Kubuabola said in a statement.

The opposition officials, top trade unionist Mahendra Chaudhry, lawyer Jai Ram Reddy and businessman Navin Maharaj, all Fijian Indians, have been in India this week, lobbying for international sanctions against the interim Suva government.

The present regime was installed after a 1987 military coup overthrew the coalition government.

The three reportedly said Fijian Indians were being imprisoned, tortured and forced to flee the country because the interim regime had said it would not allow any fresh leasing (of land) to the Indian community when current leases expire in 1998.

While denying the allegations, Mr. Kubuabola also slammed opposition claims that the new constitution effectively stripped Indians of all political rights. Mr. Kubuabola said political rights were guaranteed in the new constituton, promulgated on July 25. "The Indians in Fiji have a political party and they have been allocated 27 seats" in the new parliament which reserves 37 seats for native Fijians, he said.

New Zealand

Air Force Plane To Carry More Gulf Refugees

BK2109061490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0427 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Wellington, Sept 21 (AFP)—A New Zealand Air Force Boeing 727 will make seven more flights from Jordan next week carrying refugees to India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and the Philippines, Prime Minister Mike Moore said in a statement here Friday.

Royal New Zealand Air Force planes have already made 14 trips from the Gulf and by the end of next week the effort will have cost 2.6 million New Zealand dollars (1.6 million dollars U.S.) Mr. Moore said.

"Although our means are modest, no one can fault the constructive part we have played in the international response to the Gulf crisis," he said.

The refugees fled Iraq and Kuwait following Baghdad's invasion of the neighbouring Emirate on August 2.

Papua New Guinea

Troops Reportedly Land on Buka Island 19 Sep

BK2009122290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1201 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Sydney, Sept 20 (AFP)—Papua New Guinea officials said Thursday government troops had landed on Buka Island off Bougainville to protect villagers from secessionist rebels, AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS (AAP) reported. Attorney-General Bernard Narakobi said security forces had been sent in to "protect the innocent people" from intimidation from the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA), the report said. An unknown number of troops landed Wednesday on Buka, off the northern tip of rebel-held Bougainville, AAP said.

Mr. Narakobi was quoted as accusing the BRA of harassing innocent villagers and attempting to round up people for interrogation.

Buka and Bougainville have been cut off from the rest of the country since the BRA declared independence in April. On August 5, Bougainville secessionists and Port Moresby signed an accord under which the government agreed to lift its ban on goods and services.

The BRA, which shelved its plans to secede pending further negotiations, had refused to allow government security forces to land on territory under its control.

Copper-rich Bougainville was the scene of a 16-month secessionist war which claimed more than 80 lives before a March cease-fire.